An Argus Specialist Publication No. 39 Nov 29 - Dec 5, 1983 Nov 29 - Dec 5, 1983

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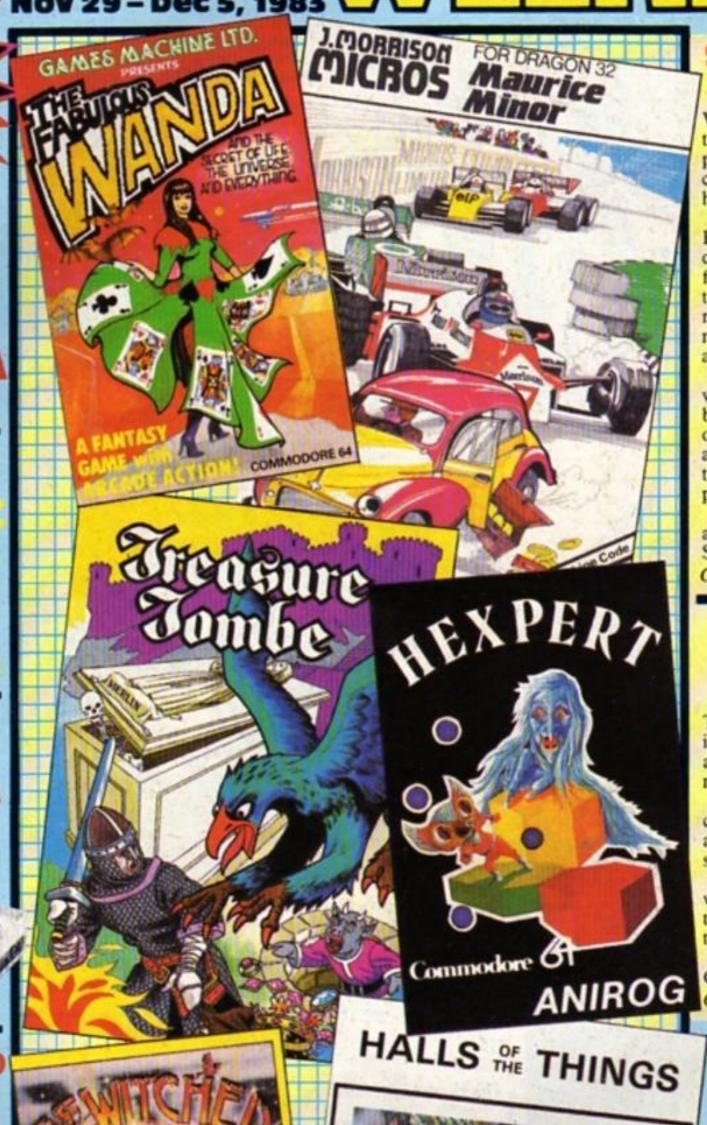
Software reviews for spectrum, 88C, Oric, Texas, ZX81 and

How to make your Commodore 64 make music



More programs to type in for: spectrum, Oric, revas VIC-20

AND: U.S. Scene, your letters...



..the name of the game

Santa's going to be busy

With less than 25 shopping days to Christmas, the major computer retailers are already celebrating the biggest boom in home computer sales yet.

Asked how sales were going at Boots, Anton Boyes, merchandise controller, said: "Pretty fantastic! Fortunately we predicted the boom and we're in a reasonable stock position, so the main problem is how to cope with all the customers.

"Our staff are fairly overwhelmed with the demand. We're bringing in extra people, but we only have one computer consultant per branch, and they have their work cut out answering people's technical queries.

"Despite careful planning we are short of certain lines — the Spectrum, BBC B, and ZX81 Continued on page 5

'Ban these mail order addresses'

The Computer Trade Association is calling for a ban on the use of accommodation addresses for mail order software.

Companies often used citycentre addresses because they attracted more mail, said CTA secretary Nigel Backhurst.

He said: "But it can be difficult when people have got a problem to try and trace who and where they are."

He spoke of a problem the CTA had solved involving a Continued on page 5

NEW RELEASE



The Guardian

5-95 the Anti-Ma

SAND CHECUS OR PO. 10 PES 412 STONEY STANDON RD. COVENTRY CVB 50G. FOR PUTSANT CREDIT CARD SALES TELEDOSDINATE



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Send 50p stamp to: Software Supermarket, 87 Howard's Lane, London SW15 6NU

Milton Keynes now has its own specialist software shop, Soft-ly, which opened last month in the indoor shopping centre. It will be stocking software, peripherals and books, and aims to cater for both games players, programmers and owners of working micros.

Soft-ly, 5-7 Deer Walk, Specialist Arcade, Central Milton Keynes

New out from Wintersoft is Operation Gremlin for the 48K Oric. It's an arcade adventure, and costs £6.95.

Wintersoft, 30 Uplands Park Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 7PT

J. Morrison, best known for its Dragon games, is now branching out into software for the Commodore 64. First out will be the 64 version of its Dragon game Vultures, at £6.95, followed by Bonka and Space Panic.

J. Morrison, 2 Glensdale Street, Leeds LS9 9JJ

Specially for armchair sports fans, Abrasco's first two Spectrum games are simulations of golf and pool. They're priced at £6.95, and Abrasco says they're almost like the real thing.

Abrasco, The Grange Barn, Pikes End, Eastcote, Middlesex

Thorn EMI is launching five of its popular cartridge games on cassette for the Spectrum. They are River Rescue, Volcanic Planet, Gold Rush, Blockade Runner and Road Racer, and will cost around £6.95. All use both joystick and keyboard control, and all but River Rescue will run on 16K machines.

Thorn EMI, Upper Saint Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9ED

Mogul is hoping that its range of 13 arcade and adventure games, which have been storming the software charts in the USA, will have the same success over here. Machines covered include the Spectrum, Commodore 64, VIC-20, TRS-80, Oric and TI-99/4A, and there are four titles written in the UK specially for the Spectrum: Vipers, Potty Planter, Crash and Fruit Machine.

Mogul, 90 Regent Street, London W1R 5PA

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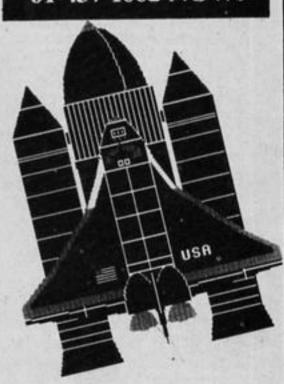
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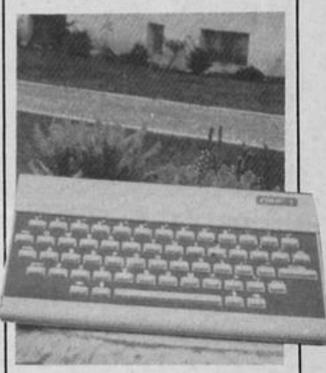
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Launch your own Space Shuttle with the BBC program which starts on page 10



There's six pages of software reviews in this issue — more than any other magazine



Get into Oric machine code with the disassembler on pages 42-45

extensively to make learning more enjoyable.

5. MULTIPLICATION TABLES. This program with correction sequences enables you to test individual multiplication tables, or all tables up to a maximum that you choose. Carriages are added to a train as the score increases - see the train glide through the countryside when the test is finished.

6. THE ROMANS. Answer questions on bear? Choose the correct word to the Romans to win a horse, chariot, viaduct and temple. Answer enough correctly and the horse will gallop away with its chariot.

Colour graphics and sound are used 7. SPELLING TESTER. The words in the test are initially displayed on the screen. Then short sentences are used as prompts for the words, which must by typed correctly to add stages to a space-ship.

Replace the words and sentences in the program with weekly spelling lists, save them on cassette, and you will rapidly create a whole library of

8. HOMOPHONES. Sale or sail; bare or complete the sentence. Extra motivation is provided by a coloured pot-plant, which grows with each correct response. The plant flowers in an unusually tuneful fashion at the end of the program.

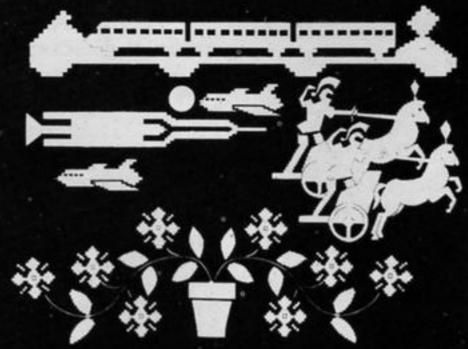
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Saturday / Sunday December 3-4 Alexandra Palace PROGRAMS 5-8



5 MULTIPLICATION TABLES 6. THE ROMANS SPELLING TESTER HOMOPHONES

Colour graphics and sound are used extensively to make learning more enjoyable.

9. NOUNS, VERBS, ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS. Sentences are displayed and you select the named parts of speech. Instant feedback and helpful comments ensure positive learning. Correct answers are rewarded by the creation of a coastal scene, which is animated at the end of the program. 10. VERB PRACTICE. You have to complete the sentences using the correct tenses of the verbs. The irregular verbs that often cause difficulty. An underwater landscape is created as questions are correctly

11. THE STRUCTURE OF THE FLOWER. This program explains how the parts of the flower are involved in the formation of seeds. This is a three part program which makes full use of high resolution colour graphics. 12. LONG DIVISION. This detailed program takes the learner through long division sums in easy stages. Correction sequences are automatically provided when they are needed. Sums with remainders can be chosen if required.

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PROGRAMS 9-12



9. NOUNS, VERBS, ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS

10 VERB PRACTICE
11 THE STRUCTURE OF THE FLOWER
12 LONG DIVISION

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NEWS

Mail order

From front page

Scottish company which was advertising a London address.

He said: "There was no answer and a court order could not be served. In that case I was able to sort it out. The difficulty was that the letter arrived when the company was closed for the holidays.

"They had used an accommodation address because they got more mail than if they had used the Scottish address."

Mr Backhurst said the CTA was pressing the Government to bar the practice of using accommodation addresses in this way.

Next month the CTA is starting a new scheme in a bid to bring to an end same-name software.

Mr Backhurst said the aim was to avoid disputes between software houses over who used the name first. He pointed out that, for example, there were 29 Munchman programs — 10 of them for the Spectrum.

He said: "It can get a bit

confusing."

Under the new scheme new games — even development copies — would be lodged with the CTA, sealed and numbered. The association would not even look at the product, said Mr Backhurst.

If there was a dispute, the date of origination could be proved.

 The CTA has just come through a cash problem because subscription income did not meet the bills, said Mr Backhurst. Members loaned the association £300, he said and added: "It was close, but we are now just about through it."

The main problem was that the cost of checking the credentials of applicants was nearly as much as their first subscription. So now there will be a £30 joining fee as well as the £50 annual subscription. And the monthly newsletter will now be a quarterly journal to save money. The CTA will use a trade magazine to keep members in touch monthly.

Computer Trade Association, 108 Margaret Street, Coalville, Leics LE6 2LX

DLT's micro challenge

It's surprising who you'll find in front of a computer keyboard these days. Disc jockey Dave Lee Travis has joined forces with Twig Systems to promote a range of six micro grames which, he says, "will have people beating their heads on the floor with frustration."

To score high on the games, says DLT, you'll need to use brains rather than brute force. But do well at all six, and you'll be in the running for DLT's Monster Challenge, and a prize of £10,000.

When 10 competitors have solved all the games, there'll be a



DLT throws down a Monster Challenge

televised final in London to pick the lucky — or skillful — winner.

The six games, which are available for the BBC, Dragon and Spectrum, are Air Sea Missile, Cambridge, Take the Strain, Othello, The Tower and Countdown Quiz.

They cost £9 per game or £45 for six, plus 50p postage and packing, and come with full instructions on how to take part in the Monster Challenge.

Twig Systems, 6 High Street, Wendover, Bucks

You could be on our pages

We welcome programs articles and tips from our readers.

printed to a width of 48 characters (use a new ribbon) and/or sent on cassette. Check carefully that they are bug-free. Include details of what your program does, how it works, variables you have used and hints on conversion.

ARTICLES on using home computers should be no longer than 2,000 words. Don't worry about your writing ability — just try to keep to the style in HCW. Articles most likely to be published will help our readers make better use of their micros by giving useful ideas, possibly with programming examples. We will convert any sketched illustrations into finished artwork.

programming routines which we can put together with others. Your hints can aid other computer users.

Competitive rates are paid.

an SAE if you want them returned. Label everything clearly and give a daytime and home phone number if you can.

Paul Liptrot, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OEE

Santa

From front page

Starter Packs are running low. But we should be able to meet the demand for Commodore 64s and Dragons. We've also sold quite a few of the Atari 600XL, which we've just brought in.

"Software is selling tremendously well, too, I'm embarrassed to say."

Did he think sales would plummet after Christmas? "I'd think the opposite. There's bound to be an unsatisfied demand for hardware and software, and people will be buying computers with money they were given for Christmas. It should be a tremendous opportunity."

Stewart Binnie, merchandise controller at W. H. Smith, said: "We're delighted with the performance of our new computer shops-within-shops, and we anticipate that sales will continue to be very strong for the next two months at least.

"In particular, we've seen the Spectrum going from strength to strength. The Commodore 64 is going well, but sales have been hit by a shortage of Commodore's cassette recorders."

Smiths has had a huge demand for the Electron — one branch had 15,000 telephone enquiries about it, and another sold out of a batch of 30 in an hour and a half. But Stewart Binnie commented, "though demand for the Electron is currently far exceeding supply, we hope that the situation will improve prior to Christmas."

And Phillip Halton, microcomputer buyer at Laskys, said: "Our general home computer trading pattern is building up very nicely—the Oric is doing extremely well, and the new Atari computers are too. In terms of units, we've probably sold more Ataris than anything else.

"By late December, demand may start to outstrip supply — we have already had supply problems with the Spectrum and with the Commodore cassette unit. But we'll get round them somehow.

"Our staff are obviously pushed, but I think they'll cope. We probably employ more staff and train them a bit better than anybody else in the High Street.

"I see the present interest in home computers continuing well into the first half of next year." Turn your CBM64 into a sophisticated synthesiser, a piano, violin, organ, guitar or harpsichord. Woodwind, drums or cymbals and play along with your own or any of the preset rhythms.

You can compose pieces of music note by note, produce explosions, birdsong, trains, thunder, flying saucers and hundreds of other special sound effects for use in your own programs.

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Spectipede 16K See how long you can keep the Spectipede at bay as they decend upon you. You'll have the help of poison mushrooms and your gun

If you eat an energy pill you can eat the ghost. Full colour graphics and sound. Operates with most leading Joysticks or the Keyboard. £4 95

NEW FOR THE ORIC

players. Operates with most leading Joysticks or the Keyboard.

Oric Quizzmaster 48K A menul driven quiz game utilizing sound and colour. Instructions are also given to substitute your own questions and answers. Great fun for all the family and ideal for education i.e. revision.

Quizzmaster 1 - General knowledge, sports and pastime

which both kill the Spectipedes but look out for the spider - he will try to jump on you. For 1 or 2

Gnasher 16K The ultimate maze game. Eat the dots but look out for the ghosts they could eat you!

Quizzmaster 2 – General knowledge, rock and pop. Quizzmaster 3 – Out soon.

ONLY £7.95 each which includes a £2.00 discouvoucher for your next Quizzmaster.

Further Quizzmasters to follow.



Dept. HCW 34 Bourton Road, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 0LE Tel: (0452) 502819

Two say: We're No.1

In the run-up to the peak sales season, both of the big two home computer makers say they are No. 1 in the UK.

First Commodore's UK marketing manager, John Baxter said: "We know we are way ahead of Sinclair, as we predicted."

In October, Commodore had shipped 20,000 Commodore 64s and 60,000 VIC-20s making a total of 130,000 with other computers.

And in the July-December period the company would exceed its forecast sales of 425,000 VICs and 64s.

However, Bill Nichols, for Sin- 3PS

clair Research, said its UK sales for September for the Spectrum and ZX81 were 150,000 and equal that for October.

And for July-December Sinclair would sell more than half a million.

Mr Nichols said: "We would certainly agree that Sinclair and Commodore are a long way ahead of the rest of the field and are the big two in the UK.

"While we have no wish to be drawn into the numbers game, we are very confident we remain No. 1."

Commodore Business Machines, 675 Ajax Avenue, Slough, Berks SL1 4BG

Sinclair Research, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15

Little Brother

Measuring the size of this page, the new Brother EP-22 is a travelling typewriter and a computer printer.

Powered by four 1.5 volt batteries, it works almost silently, using thermal printing with a dot matrix font. The so-called Baby Brother has a built-in RS-232 interface and costs £169.95.

Jones & Brother, Shepley Street, Audenshaw, Manchester M34 5JD

The Baby Brother — small and quiet



Briefly

Budget-priced games for the Atari - some at less than half price - are out from Allrian Data Services. The first five tapes, all at £7.50 by Artworx, of New York State, are Intruder Alert, Rings of the Empire, Space Trap, Giant Slalom and Crazitack. Some cost £17 when first on sale several months ago. Allrian says Atari software had been expensive because it was imported in small quantities from America. The company would continue with its full-priced games.

Allrian, 1000A Uxbridge Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 0RL

An acrylic stand to hold three data cards for the 48K Lynx key-

board is now out from Peripheral Products. The stand, at £14.95 with the cards, can also support magazines while you are typing in a program.

Peripheral Products, 209 Kenton Lane, Kenton, Middlesex

Newly-launched Intrigue Software has a seasonal release — Santa and the Goblins, a £5.95 adventure for the standard TI-99/4A. You play Santa trying to deliver gifts in a large stately home, but greedy goblins are trying to make off with the presents. Proprietor Dennis Webb says the characters "talk" in Hobbit style.

Intrigue Software, Cranbrook Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30

Build your own plastic palace

Have you always wanted to live in an electronically-controlled house but couldn't figure out how to do it? Well, the answer is now available in book form.

Roy Mason is an architect who has worked on many visionary projects. Recently he completed the design of a modernistic home near Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

The home is called Xanadu, is made from polyurethane, and is completely computer controlled.

Mason has coined a term called archetronics to designate the

interface between architecture and electronics.

The house, although it could be lived in, is used solely as a demonstration unit. The electronic and computer controls are completely off the shelf applications of existing products; nothing was customised.

Some of the special features in the house include: a kitchen that keeps track of what food is in stock, selects menus; generates shopping lists, and files recipes; a "Sensorium" using biofeedback to monitor your mood, pulse rate, and play appropriate music; computer terminals in every room and a 60-channel satellite TV.

Lights, draperies, heating and cooling systems are all automatically controlled; there is a complete art library on videodisc. All controls use existing house wiring; no special wiring was required.

The best point of all is that Mason has written and published a book that describes a "typical" day in the life of a Xanadu resident, but better still, tells how to install computer controls in existing houses and includes a list of distributors and manufacturers who make these devices.

The book is available from Acropolis Books, of Washington

DC, and costs \$18.95.

Well worth reading, as many ideas can be adapted by those of us who have the inclination if not the cash to build our own elec-

tronically controlled plastic palace. Happy reading!

+ + + +

Perhaps not willing to be completely outdone by our British cousins, the United States' Public Television Network has begun a series on, as they put it, demystifying high technology.

The show will air weekly, and started late last month. Its official name is The New Tech Times and will explore home computers, home robots, satellite TV and videotext, computer games, and other aspects of new technology that has application in the average home.

Different shows will focus on various special applications, such as electronic mail, computer bulletin board systems, computer art, and computer control of various aspects of the home environment.

The show is mainly designed for those who still fear the computer and/or think it will blow up if the wrong button is pressed. Thirteen segments are being taped, with a second season of 13 more shows in the planning stage.

* * * *

If you have an Epson printer, you might be interested in this product. It is called Finger Print, an add-in plug-in module which gives you access to such printer functions as compressed, italic and emphasized print.

You can also perform operations such as double-strike, perforation skipover, left margin indent, fine print, and clear buffer.

These various functions can be combined and become available from the printer control panel.

The device lists for a mere \$59.95 and is available from Dresselhaus Computer Products, 837 East Alosta Avenue, Glendora CA 91740, (213) 914-5831. Seems like good value for money.

Out of room again. See you next week.

Bud Izen Fairfield, California



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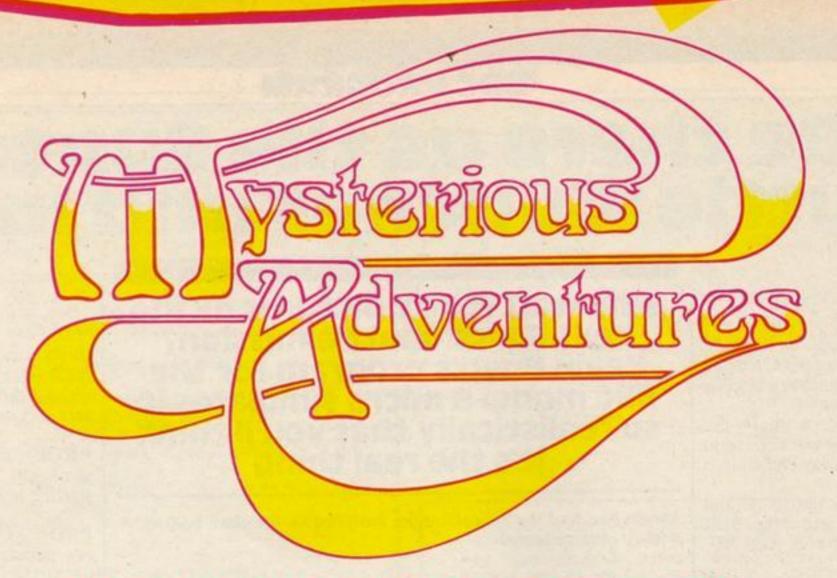
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WHAT ARE MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES?

MYSTERIOUS: (Adjective):- "Baffling, full of mystery, strange or unaccountable".

ADVENTURE: (Noun):- "An enterprise full of risk or danger, an experience of unforeseen events endangering the participants life, a gamble on failure or success".

To start play on a MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURE is to take a step out of the world of reality and into the world of dreams. Your computer is your guide on these fantastic journeys in time and space where danger is ever present and solutions to problems seldom come easy.

By typing in simple commands in plain English you can "talk" to your computerised guide and tell it what your next actions are to be.

MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES bring a frightening reality to the surreal situations in which you will find yourself. You will become involved in these strange worlds of the imagination, you will feel anger when things seem to be moving against you, you will feel elated when you overcome obstacles that are set in your way. Eventually you will feel overjoyed as you reach the climax of your mission and success is yours.

Any MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURE is not a mission to be taken lightly, success will never be instant – just as Rome was not built in a day, so each Adventure can rarely be completed in one session. To this end a "SAVE GAME" feature has been incorporated in each of the Adventures. This means that at any given time during play of an Adventure, you can store on tape your precise whereabouts, your equipment carried, and any other pertinent details about your present status.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES

Over the past few years, Adventure programs on Computers have almost always been presented in the classic "Text only" mode. For most Adventure players this has indeed been the way they prefer to play Adventures. The mental imagery generated by such an approach is limited only by the player's own imagination. One of the main reasons for the "Text only" approach has been the lack of hardware capabilities with regard to Graphics resolution – Pictorial Adventures could at best be only very limited in scope.

This situation is changing now however, and Brian Howarth, author of the MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES series, has spent many hours incorporating Graphics into the Adventures. By working in close conjunction with Jon Blacow, a professional Artist, Brian has produced a series of extremely vivid and imaginative Adventures. Each MYSTERIOUS

ADVENTURE now features, in addition to the Text description, pictorial "views" of your current location and surroundings. As you enter each new location, a high resolution, colour picture is rapidly drawn. The effect of this is to bring much more reality to the Scenario, you can actually see the situation you are faced with and act accordingly. It must be stressed that each picture has been designed so that it will enhance, rather than conflict with your mental imagery. At the single stroke of a key, you can erase the picture and carry on with your Adventure in text only if this is your preference. We are confident that no other Adventure programs can boast such breathtaking realism and imagination combined with the flexibility and ease of play that have made MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES such a phenomenal worldwide success.

In addition, the Adventures now features full sentence decoding as standard. These mean that you are no longer restricted to inputting single or two-word commands. You can now type in whole sentences in more or less plain English. Your computer will quickly analyse the sentence and perform a whole string of your commands. Just another feature designed to maximise your enjoyment of these world beating games!



The "New style" MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES are currently available for the 48K SPECTRUM, COMMODORE 64. More releases are planned this year which will include DRAGON 32, ORIC-1. APPLE II & IIe, ATARI, LYNX, MATTEL AQUARIUS, IBM PC etc. Please write or phone for availability.

BBC PROGRAM

Be there as the Space Shuttle launches and lands

Sit back and watch as the U.S. Space Shuttle takes off in a cloud of smoke and launches a satellite into orbit.

Then you have a pilot's eye view of the spacecraft coming in to land on a runway etched into salt flats.

My simulation uses 6.5K and runs in MODE 1 on the BBC model B computer for 117 seconds.

The drawings of the shuttle and booster rockets are as accurate as I could make them. Certain things were deliberately left out for the sake of clarity.

Once you have typed in the program it would be a good idea to carefully check all the coordinates in the PROCedures before RUNning.

The program is split into five sections and each uses three main graphics routines which draw triangles (PROC_TRI 1090-1130), rectangles (PROC_RECT 1140-1190) and circles (PROC_CIRCLE 1200-1280).

These routines are used a lot, so here is a description of each of them:

PROC_TRI has seven parameters. The first six are three sets of two co-ordinates to define the

How it works

110-140 produce title page while circle arrays are calculated

150 set graphics mode (resolution is 320 by 256 in hi-res with four colours, 40 by 32 text)

160-170 set up sound envelopes 180 change colour 2 (yellow) to colour 6 (cyan)

190 cursor off

200-240 call PROCedures

270-600 draw fuel tank, booster rockets

610-1080 draw shuttle

1090-1130 triangle

1140-1190 rectangle

1200-1280 circle

1290-1340 initial blast of smoke

1350-1430 ever-widening tower of smoke, move shuttle

1770-1730 open payload doors
1740-1820 draw satellite inside
payload area, define text
window from shuttle to top of
screen then scroll satellite to

1830-1970 launch satellite out of sight of shuttle, then out of your view

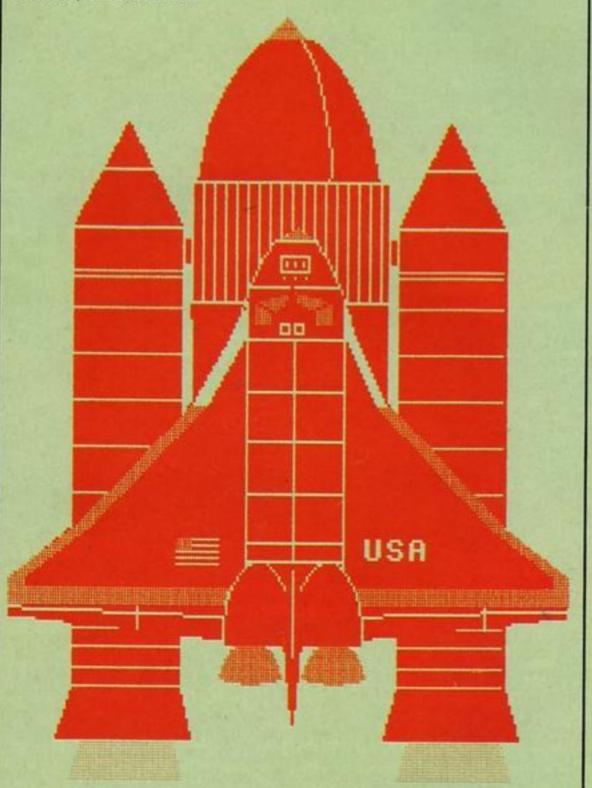
1990 invert: black to white, white to black

2000-2050 view of shuttle approaching runway

2060-2140 shuttle touches down

Why wait for TV pictures of the next Space Shuttle mission? Kevin Boyd's program for the BBC model B micro simulates it so realistically that you'll think it's the real thing

Screen dump of the Space Shuttle, mounted on the giant booster rockets, before launch



110 MODE7

120 CLS:PRINTTAB(5,10); CHR\$141; "SPACE SHUTTLE SI MULATION":PRINTTAB(5); CHR\$141; "SPACE SHUTTLE SIMUL ATION"

130 DIMS (90), C (90)

140 AX=-1:RX=400:FORA=0TORAD360 STEPRAD4:AX=AX+1

:S(AX) =SIN(A) : C(AX) =COS(A) : NEXT

150 MODE1

160 ENVELOPE1, 1, 15, -2, 20, 8, 40, 5, 10, -1, -1, -1, 126,

100

170 ENVELOPE2,7,113,0,0,3,1,1,30,-40,-1,-5,126,1

180 VDU19,2,6,0,0,0

190 VDU23;8202;0;0;0;

200 PROCGR_SHUTTLE

210 PROCCount_Down

220 PROCLAUNCH 230 PROCSP SHUTTLE

240 PROCLAND SHUTTLE

250 END

three points of the triangle and the seventh parameter is a flag. If set to 1 the triangle is filled in, if zero it is not.

PROC_RECT works in the same way to draw a rectangle, starting bottom left.

PROC_CIRCLE begins with two parameters for the centre of the circle. The next two are the radius and a flag, used as above. The routine uses two arrays, set up in lines 130-140. They hold the SIN and COS values to calculate the circle — much faster than calculating the values each time you call the routine.

Hints on conversion

You will have a hard task converting this program to another micro because it uses the BBC's graphics capabilities to the full.

Your computer should have a graphics resolution of 320 by 256 pixels, the ability to individually colour each and have up to four colours available (white, black, red and cvan).

I have made a lot of use of text windows in the satellite launch routine. This allows you to define a window anywhere on the 40 by 32 text screen and then scroll anything inside that window without affecting the rest of the screen.

The command which does this is VDU28, followed by four parameters (left X, bottom Y, right X and top Y).

Other VDU commands used in the program are:

VDU19 followed by five numbers. The first is the colour which is to be changed and the second is the colour into which it is to be changed. The last three digits are zeros

VDU5 enables you to print a character anywhere on the graphics screen. Note that the MOVE command must be used (see 930)

VDU26 restores any text window to normal screen size

VDU11 moves the cursor up one line

VDU30 homes text cursor to top left

VDU30 followed by VDU11

vDU4 disables the effect of

Colour numbers used in GCOL commands are: zero black, 1 red, 2 yellow (changed to cyan at 180) and 3 white.

BBC PROGRAM

```
260 DEFPROCGR SHUTTLE
  270 REM******: FUEL TANK :*********
  280 PROC_CIRCLE (640, 700, 140, 300, 1)
  290 GCOL0, 0: PROC_CIRCLE (600, 830, 100, 200, 0)
  300 GCOL0, 3: PROC_RECT (505, 250, 275, 550, 1)
  310 GCOL0,0
  320 MOVE500, 806: DRAWB00, 806: MOVE500, 650: DRAWB00,
650
  330 FORL=500T0780STEP16: MOVEL, 806: DRAWL, 650: NEXT
  340 GCOL0,2
  350 PROC_TRI (610, 995, 660, 995, 638, 1020, 1)
  360 REM**** LEFT ROCKET BOOSTER *****
  370 GCOL0,1
  380 PROC TRI (330, 30, 490, 30, 425, 300, 1)
  390 GCOL0,3
  400 PROC_TRI (310, 80, 502, 80, 425, 400, 1)
  410 PROC_RECT (335, 120, 150, 620, 1)
  420 GCOL0, 1
  430 FORL=640TD300STEP-60:MDVE335, L: DRAW485, L: NEX
  440 FORL=300TD150STEP-25:MDVE335, L:DRAW485, L:NEX
T
  450 MOVE335, 680: DRAW485, 680: MOVE335, 688: DRAW485,
688
  460 GCOL0,3
  470 PROC_TRI (335,750,485,750,410,880,1)
  480 GCOL0,0
  490 MOVE335,820: DRAW485,820
  500 GCOL0, 3: PROC_RECT (492, 700, 6, 30, 1)
  510 REM**** RIGHT ROCKET BOOSTER *****
  520 GCOL0,1:PROC_TRI(800,30,960,30,880,300,1)
  530 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI (780, 80, 972, 80, 876, 400, 1)
  540 PROC_RECT(800, 100, 155, 640, 1)
  550 GCOL0,1
  560 FORL=640T0300STEP-60:MDVE800, L:DRAW950, L:NEX
  570 FORL=300T0150STEP-25:MOVE800, L:DRAW950, L:NEX
  580 MOVE800, 680: DRAW950, 680: MOVE800, 688: DRAW950,
688
  590 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI (800, 750, 950, 750, 875, 880, 1):
GCOL0, 0: MOVE800, 820: DRAW950, 820
  600 GCOL0,3:PROC_RECT(788,700,6,30,1)
  610 REM******* SPACE SHUTTLE *******
  620 GCOL0, 3: PROC_CIRCLE (650, 520, 90, 220, 1): GCOL0,
0:PROC_CIRCLE(650,520,90,220,0)
  630 REM****** WINGS *****
  640 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI (430, 420, 860, 420, 640, 700, 1)
  650 PROC_TRI (240, 290, 640, 590, 640, 240, 1):GCOL0, 0:
FORL=506T0526STEP4: MOVEL, 518: DRAWL+56, 610: NEXT: GCO
L0,3
  660 PROC_TRI (240, 290, 240, 240, 640, 240, 1)
  670 PROC_TRI (240, 240, 640, 240, 640, 200, 1)
   680 PROC_TRI (1040, 290, 640, 590, 640, 240, 1): GCOL0, 0
:FORL=732T0718STEP-4:MOVEL,610:DRAWL+48,516:NEXT:G
   690 PROC TRI (1040, 290, 1040, 240, 640, 240, 1)
   700 PROC_TRI (1040, 240, 640, 240, 640, 200, 1)
   710 GCOL0,0:MOVE580,650:DRAW580,300:MOVE720,650:
DRAW720,300
   720 FORL=600T0330STEP-66: MOVE580, L: DRAW720, L: NEX
T: MOVE580, 315: DRAW720, 315: MOVE650, 600: DRAW650, 300
   730 MOVE580, 670: DRAW710, 670
   740 GCOL0, 2: PROC_TRI (634, 735, 670, 735, 652, 745, 1):
GCOL0, 0: MOVE630, 730: DRAW680, 730
   750 PROC_RECT (630,690,40,20,0):PLOT69,639,700:PL
DT69,639,696
   760 PLOT69,650,700:PLOT69,650,696:PLOT69,662,700
: PLOT69, 662, 696
   770 PLDT69, 635, 680: PLDT69, 650, 680: PLDT69, 665, 680
   780 GCOL0, 2: PROC_RECT (595, 620, 20, 30, 1): PROC_TRI (
 595,650,700,650,650,660,1):PROC_RECT(680,620,20,30
,1)
   790 PROC_TRI (615, 635, 615, 650, 640, 650, 1): PROC_TRI
 (680,635,680,650,655,650,1)
   800 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI (635, 630, 655, 630, 645, 670, 1)
   B10 MOVE630,630: DRAW590,650: MOVE670,635: DRAW720,
   820 GCDL0,0:PROC_RECT(630,610,10,10,0):PROC_RECT
 (650, 610, 10, 10, 0)
   830 GCOL0, 0: PROC_TRI (562, 612, 580, 612, 580, 640, 1)
   840 PROC_TRI (720, 612, 732, 612, 725, 640, 1)
   850 GCOL0,2
   860 FORL=500T0520STEP4: MOVEL, 512: DRAWL-158, 360: N
EXT
   870 FORL=770T0790STEP4: MOVEL, 512: DRAWL+158, 360: N
   880 FORL=358T0338STEP-4: MOVEL, 358: DRAWL-94, 292: N
 EXT
```

```
890 FORL=932T0952STEP4: MOVEL, 358: DRAWL+94, 292: NE

900 FORL=242T0262STEP4: MOVEL, 288: DRAWL, 256: NEXT

910 FORL=1026T01046STEP4: MOVEL, 288: DRAWL, 256: NEXT

920 PROC_RECT (262, 256, 780, 22, 1)

930 GCOL0, 0: MOVE426, 252: DRAW426, 225: MOVE926, 252:

940 MOVE200, 255: DRAW550, 240: MOVE1124, 255: DRAW710

950 VDUS: MOVE750, 340: PRINT "USA": VDU4

960 GCOL0, 1: PROC_RECT (480, 310, 60, 30, 1)

970 GCOL0, 3: FORI=314T0340STEP8: MOVE480, I: DRAW540
```

```
980 GCOL0, 2: PROC_RECT (480, 330, 20, 10, 1)
  990 REM****** SHUTTLE ENGINES *****
 1000 GCOL0, 3: PROC_CIRCLE (600, 213, 50, 100, 1): GCOL0,
0:PROC_CIRCLE(600, 213, 50, 100, 0)
 1010 GCOL0, 3: PROC_CIRCLE (700, 213, 50, 100, 1): GCOL0,
0:PROC_CIRCLE(700,213,50,100,0)
 1020 PROC RECT (540, 100, 210, 100, 1)
 1030 GCDL0, 2: Y=50: FORC=164T0194STEP10: Y=Y-5: PROC_
CIRCLE (590, C, Y, 10, 1): NEXT
 1040 Y=50:FORC=164T0194STEP10:Y=Y-5:PROC_CIRCLE(7
10, C, Y, 10, 1) : NEXT
 1050 REM******* TAIL FIN ********
 1060 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI (650, 100, 635, 250, 665, 250, 1):
PROC_TRI (635, 250, 665, 250, 650, 310, 1)
 1070 GCDL0, 0: MDVE650, 190: DRAW650, 300
 1080 ENDPROC
 1090 DEFPROC_TRI(X1, Y1, X2, Y2, X3, Y3, F)
 1100 MOVEX1, Y1
 1110 IFF=0 DRAWX2, Y2 ELSE MOVEX2, Y2
 1120 IFF=0 DRAWX3, Y3: DRAWX1, Y1 ELSE PLOT85, X3, Y3:
MOVEX1, Y1
 1130 ENDPROC
 1140 DEFPROC_RECT(X,Y,L,W,F)
 1150 MOVEX, Y: DRAWX+L, Y
 1160 IFF=0 DRAWX+L, Y+W ELSEPLOT85, X, Y+W
 1170 IFF=0 DRAWX, Y+W ELSEPLOT85, X+L, Y+W
 1180 MOVEX, Y+W: IFF=0 DRAWX, Y ELSE MOVEX, Y
 1190 ENDPROC
 1200 DEFPROC_CIRCLE(X,Y,R1,R2,F)
 1210 LOCALZ, X%, Y%
 1220 MOVEX+R1, Y: MOVEX+R1, Y
 1230 A%=0:FORZ=0TO6STEP.2
         X%=X+R1*C(A%):Y%=R2*S(A%):A%=A%+3
 1240
         IFF<>1 DRAWX%, Y+Y%ELSEPLOTB5, X%, Y+Y%: PLOTB
 1250
5, X%, Y-Y%
 1260
        IFF=1 AND Z>3.2 Z=6
 1270
         NEXT
 1280 ENDPROC
 1290 DEFPROCLAUNCH
 1300 GCOL0,3
 1310 SOUNDO, -15, 4, 200
 1320 PRINTTAB(0,31):PROC_RECT(330,5,155,53,1)
 1330 PROC_RECT(800,5,160,53,1)
 1340 PROC_TRI (550, 190, 630, 190, 590, 100, 1):PROC_TRI
(750, 190, 670, 190, 710, 100, 1)
 1350 W=310:E=500
 1360 FORS=0TO45: PRINTTAB(0,31)
         W=W-20:E=E+20
 1370
 1380
         FORD=1TOW: NEXTD
 1390
         PROC_TRI (W, 5, E, 5, 400, 80, 1)
         PROC_TRI (W+470, 5, E+480, 5, 870, 80, 1)
 1400
 1410
 1420 CLS
 1430 ENDPROC
 1440 DEFPROCCount Down
 1450 FORC=10TD0STEP-1
         SOUND1,1,C*10,20
 1460
         FORM=28T04STEP-1:PRINTTAB(2,M);C;" ":PRINT
 1470
TAB(2,M+1);" ":NEXT
         FORD=1TO1000: NEXTD
 1480
 1490
         PRINTTAB(2,3);"
 1500
         NEXT
 1510 ENDPROC
 1520 DEFPROCSP_SHUTTLE
 1530 FORI=1T03: VDU19, I, 0, 0, 0, 0: NEXT
 1540 GCOL0,3
 1550 PROC_CIRCLE(200,0,250,100,1)
```

BBC PROGRAM

```
1560 PROC_CIRCLE (300, 60, 200, 80, 1)
1570 PROC_RECT (300, 0, 800, 140, 1)
1580 GCOL0, 2
1590 PROC_RECT(170, 110, 40, 10, 1)
1600 GCOL0,0
1610 MOVE300, 70: DRAW990, 70
1620 FORI=300T0990STEP172: MOVEI, 70: DRAWI, 140: NEXT
1630 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI(1000, 140, 1100, 140, 1190, 350,
1):PROC_TRI(1140, 140, 1190, 350, 1250, 350, 1)
 1640 PROC_TRI(1100, 140, 1150, 140, 1180, 330, 1)
1650 PROC_CIRCLE(1150, 100, 150, 50, 1): GCOL0, 0: PROC
CIRCLE (1150, 100, 150, 50, 0)
 1660 PROC_RECT(1110,50,200,100,1)
1670 VDU19, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0: VDU19, 2, 6, 0, 0: VDU19, 3, 7, 0,
0.0
 1680 GCOL0, 2: Y=50: FORC=100T0103: Y=Y-10: PROC CIRCL
E(1140+Y, C, 10, Y, 1): NEXT
 1690 GCOL0, 3: PROC_RECT(1110, 80, 50, 60, 1): GCOL0, 0:P
ROC_RECT(1110,80,50,60,0)
 1700 GCOL0, 2: Y=50: FORC=20T023: Y=Y-10: PROC_CIRCLE (
1115+Y,C,20,Y,1):NEXT
 1710 GCOL0, 3: PROC_TRI(1100, 5, 1100, 50, 1120, 20, 1)
 1720 GCOL0,0
 1730 FDRI=170TD68STEP-1:MOVE300, I:DRAW990, I:NEXT
1740 REM****** SATELITE ***********
 1750 VDU28, 10, 28, 28, 1
 1760 GCOL0, 1: PROC_CIRCLE (550, 250, 100, 20, 1): PROC_C
IRCLE (550, 120, 100, 20, 1)
 1770 GCOL0,3
 1780 PROC_RECT (440, 125, 220, 118, 1)
 1790 GCDL0, 1: PROC_RECT (460, 190, 60, 30, 1)
 1800 GCOL0, 3: FORI=194T0220STEP8: MOVE460, I: DRAW520
, I:NEXT
 1810 GCOL0, 2: PROC_RECT (460, 210, 20, 10, 1)
 1820 GCOL0, 0: PROC_RECT (450, 130, 200, 30, 0)
 1830 REM*** LAUNCH SATELITES ********
```

```
1840 SOUNDO, -8, 4, 40
  1850 FORI=0TO48: PRINT
          IFI>25THENFORD=1T080: NEXTD
  1860
  1870
  1880 GCOL0, 1: PROC_RECT (75, 850, 360, 60, 1): PROC_RECT
 (670,850,360,60,1)
  1890 GCOL0, 3: FORI = 80TD440STEP10: MOVEI, 850: DRAWI, 9
 10: MOVEI+595, 850: DRAWI+595, 910: NEXT
  1900 SOUND1, 2, 100, 100: SOUND1, 2, 110, 100: SOUND1, 2, 1
 00,100
  1910 VDU28,0,31,39,20
  1920 VDU30:FORI=1T012:VDU11
  1930
         FORD=1T01000: NEXTD
  1940
         NEXTI
  1950 VDU26:FORI=0T010:PRINTTAB(0,31);" "
  1960
         FORD=1T01000: NEXTD, I
  1970
         ENDPROC
         DEFPROCLAND_SHUTTLE
  1980
         VDU19,0,7,0,0,0,19,3,0,0,0,0
  1990
 2000
         GCOL0.3
 2010
         MOVE600,600: DRAW640,600
 2020
         FORI=0T0340STEP10
           MOVE340-I,580-I:DRAW600,600:MOVE640,600:
 2030
DRAW940+1,580-1:DRAW340-1,580-1
           FORD=1T0200:NEXTD:GCOL0,0:MOVE340-I,580-
 2040
I: DRAW600, 600: MOVE640, 600: DRAW940+I, 580-I: DRAW340-
I,580-I:GCOL0,3
 2050
           NEXT
 2060
        CLS
 2070
        FORI=0T0150STEP5: MOVE0, A: DRAW600-I, 640-I: M
 2080
DVE1279, A: DRAW640+I, 640-I: DRAW600-I, 640-I
 2090
          FORD=1T0100:NEXT
          GCDL0, 0: MOVE0, A: DRAW600-I, 640-I: MOVE1279
 2100
, A: DRAW640+I, 640-I: DRAW600-I, 640-I: GCOL0, 3
2110
        MOVE@, A: DRAW600-I, 640-I: MOVE1279, A: DRAW640
2120
+I,640-I:DRAW600-I,640-I
2130
        PRINTTAB (10,5) "SHUTTLE LANDED SAFELY"
2140
        ENDPROC
```



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And, even if you're not among the 40 winners, you qualify for free membership of the QS Game Lords

Members, who would usually pay £1 to join, get a £1 discount voucher, a club card, special offers and a quarterly magazine packed with articles, comic strips and stories.

The How to Enter section tells you how to get your free membership.

The competition prizes will be in the form of 40 vouchers worth £25 each for software ordered by post from Quicksilva.

You will receive a complete list of all the company's top-selling titles from which to make your choice.

The winners will be the senders of the first 40 correct entries we open at noon on Friday December 16, regardless of computer, provided the instructions below are followed.

How to enter

Study the two cartoons and circle in ballpoint pen all the differences you find.

Complete the coupon fully, including a tick in the box if you would

There's 40 chances to win bigname games from leading software house Quicksilva in this fun spot the difference competition. And even if you're not lucky enough this time, you can enrol in the Game Lords Club free of charge

like free membership of the Game Lords Club.

Then cut around the broken lines, seal the drawing with coupon attached in an envelope - and write clearly on the back the number of differences you found. Add the letter G to the back of the envelope for free membership of the Game Lords Club.

Post your entry to Quicksilva Competition, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE.

Entries close at first post on Friday December 16.

Copies of the coupon will not be accepted. The solution and the names of the winners will be published in the news columns of Home Computing Weekly.

The £25 vouchers and membership particulars will arrive from Quicksilva within 28 days of the publication date of that issue.

The rules

The first 40 correct entries drawn at noon on Friday December 16, 1983, will win the prizes. Coupons which are not fully completed and envelopes without the number of differences found on the back will not be considered.

Entries will not be accepted from employees of Argus Specialist Publications, Quicksilva and Alabaster Passmore & Sons. This restriction also applies to employees' families and agents of the

The winners' names and the solution will appear in Home Computing Weekly. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Quicksilva Competition

Entry Coupon

Address

Name



_____ post code_____

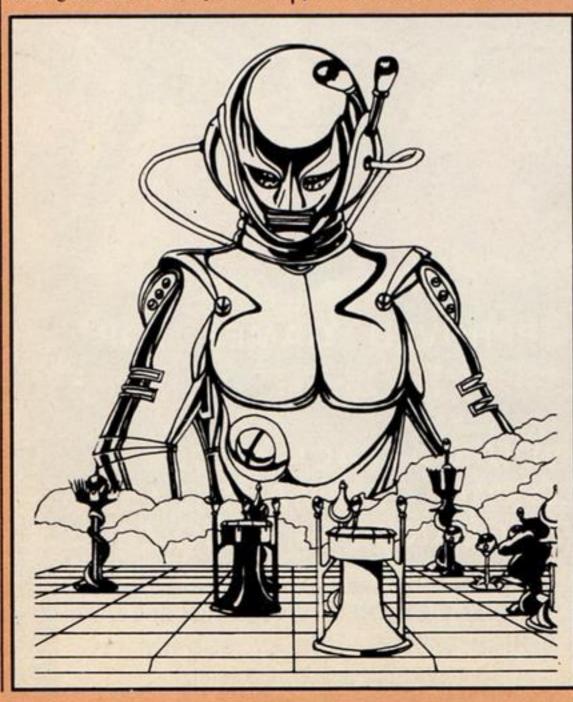
Computer _____

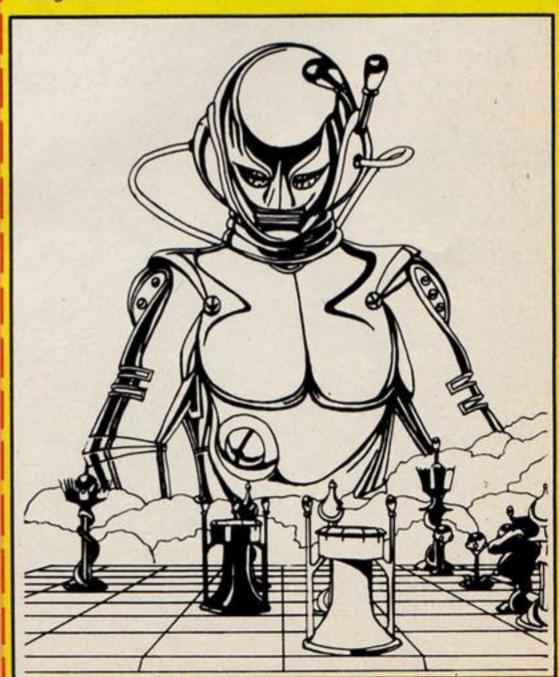
Number of differences found

Please enrol me for free membership of the Game Lords Club (tick box)



Post to Quicksilva Competition, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE. Closing date: first post Friday December 16. Don't forget to write the number of differences you found on the back of the envelope and, if you would like free membership of the Game Lords Club, a large letter G



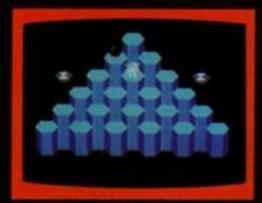


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5 Pecial collections

Tapes containing several programs for the price of one can mean good value for money — if the programming's up to standard. Our reviewers look at some recent collections

Syphax **48K Spectrum**

Rosetta Software, 2 Rosetta Close, Wivenhoe, Essex CO79RX

Rosetta is the trade name of Mark Alston, aged 13, who has produced an extremely praiseworthy package in Syphax. It's dial-apage Teletext style magazine of puzzles, facts, quizzes, demonstration programs and so on.

Loading takes two or three minutes but is very reliable. To start, you simply enter your chosen three-digit page number from the displayed index and the selected subject is screened very quickly.

Enter an alternative reference and your Spectrum quickly "thumbs through" the magazine to produce your next selection.

Mark has done a splendid job in compiling Syphax, and I enjoyed

Fun-Pac TI-99/4A £6.95

Virgin Games, 61-63 Portobello Road, London W11

Fun-Pac contains two programs: Supermouse and Let's Go to the Races.

cartoon cat and mouse favourites, Tom and Gerry.

Gerry has the task of eating pieces of cheese, which are randomly distributed in a simple all the pieces are eaten then Gerry becomes Supermouse and chases

At various locations in the declared. maze are mouseholes through which only Gerry may pass. The number of these decrease through the six skill levels as the cheeses to eat increase.

Failing to eat sufficient cheese, however, causes Gerry to slow

down, making capture by Tom more likely.

Let's Go to the Races is a game for up to six players. Each player in turn controls a horse along a set racecourse, obtaining the least number of penalties in the shortest possible time.

There are a possible nine courses to choose from, each of Supermouse features those two which has six laps to complete by moving across and down the screen, but having a different layout of hurdles and waterjumps.

As each horse finishes the maze, while pursued by Tom. If course the time taken and total score, including penalty points, are displayed, but when all horses have run no overall winner is Ja Para Maduj.W.

instructions	90%
playability	70%
graphics	70%
value for money	75%



browsing through the magazine.

But the main bonus is that the program is designed so that you can alter any page to suit your needs, so that it would form a good base for a family, club or class magazine or for computer pen-pal correspondence.

It may also prove of value to a business user, with each page holding customer names and addresses and other information.

At the price, Syphax is a bargain, and I look forward to Rosetta's next offering with great interest.

instructions	90%
playability	90%
display	90%
value for money	95%



Octal-1/Keys of the Castle TI-99/4A (Extended BASIC) £11

Stockport, Cheshire SK4 5AH

The aliens appear as invading control.

the screen, you must ward off three waves of attack for which different points are scored.

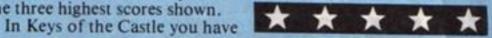
Your Octal base may be rotated through eight positions, either left or right. You fire with twin Octazer bolts. The game ends when your base is destroyed and the three highest scores shown.

three castles to explore. Each has six floors with a maze layout and increasing hazards at each level including darkened hallways and electrified walls.

Your objective is to explore all the castles. To gain access to the next level, keys have to be By PS Software, from Stainless collected from rooms, some of Software, 10 Alstone Road, which are guarded, and taken to their correspondingly coloured

All your explorations are made Spyders in Octal-1, which has in a race against the clock. The optional keyboard or joystick game end either when you succeed in your mission, sustain ten From your base in the centre of wounds, or run out of time. A final score is given.

instructions	95%
playability	90%
graphics	90%
value for money	100%



Games Tape one TI-99/4A £3.50

Firefly, 48 Dorset Street, London WIH 3FH

Games Tape One contains three programs: Trapt, Star-Storm and Astro-Run. As each is fairly short, all are loaded together then selected from a menu.

Trapt I found by far the best of the three. The object is to move a man round a courtyard while the computer attempts to block your path with his men. You score for each move until completely surrounded.

The computer may not be the most witty of opponents, yet is challenging enough to make this a simple but amusing game to play.

Star-Storm is somewhat slowmoving, and could be made more difficult than it is. You must avoid

oncoming stars as they scroll up the screen towards your space-

Although clusters of stars make ship. a difficult path in the middle of the screen, by staying towards the edges they become so sparse as to hardly offer any challenge at all.

In Astro-Run you manoeuvre from side to side avoiding asteroid showers which gradually fill the screen. Each complete traverse constitutes an astro-run. Should you attempt to move off the screen the program crashes with a BAD VALUE IN 8440.

Overall, worth buying for Trapt alone but neither of the other two games has that same addictive flavour.

Contract of the last of the la	800
structions	60
layability	60
raphics	70
alue for money	



Task Force/ Demolish/ Cosmos 32K BBC £7.50

R. H. Electronics, Chesterton Mill, French's Road, Cambridge CB4 3NP

RH's three-in-one cassette gives three fairly standard games.

Task Force is a tactical air/sea battle played on a coloured map.

Two players take turns to move a fleet of six ships round the coastline of an island.

Ships, guns and aircraft may be used to destroy enemy vessels, with all controls prompted for on-

Full instructions are given in a well-written program which nonetheless suffers from slowness and average graphics, and might prove slightly boring after a few hours playing.

The second game, Demolish, is

a cross-breed of Invaders and Breakout, where you must destroy crumbling walls with your laser base. This game uses 'block'

The last game, Cosmos, is a rather weird version of Space Invaders, with huge jerky aliens and a slow-firing base.

All the games in this package suffer from the lack of originality inherent in many software releases, but do offer three games for the price of one. Perhaps new

BBC owners might enjoy them.

ructions	70%
yability	55%
phics	45%
ie for money	65%
ie for money	



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Will you be the hero of the galaxy?

We're all depending on you and your starship. David Wilkinson's game for the VIC-20, plus 3K of RAM, will decide our fate

How it works

1-16 set up variables 17-55 menu 100-135 move 150-202 short range scan 250-298 long range scan 300-350 laser 400-445 missile

450-470 log record 500-530 current status 700-810 messages 1000-1230 sound effects

MI missiles **KD** Klingons SD starships X,Y co-ordinates of spaceship

Main variables

KL quadrant No. of Klingon

SH quadrant No. of starship

K1, K2, S1, S2 co-ordinates

LS display of quadrant

FU energy

You are alone, 10,000 miles from Earth, and somewhere out there are 20 Klingon ships. If you don't find and destroy them they'll wreak mayhem on the whole of your galaxy.

Although you don't know their positions, your ship is equipped with short and long range scans... plus lasers and missiles.

Your short range scan gives you a visual display of the quadrant you are in and the long range scan gives you the number of Klingons and starships in your quadrant and the eight adjoining quadrants.

In each quadrant there are two numbers. The one on the left tells you the number of Klingon ships and the number on the right is the total of starships.

You can choose a time limit, range scan of the quadrant.

one to eight minutes, by which you must shoot a ship. This also increases your energy level.

You can also choose a difficulty level, from one (hard) to easy (eight).

The galaxy is a five by 12 grid of quadrants and each quadrant is an eight by eight grid of coordinates.

How to move:

Right add the required number of co-ordinates to X

Left subtract required number from X

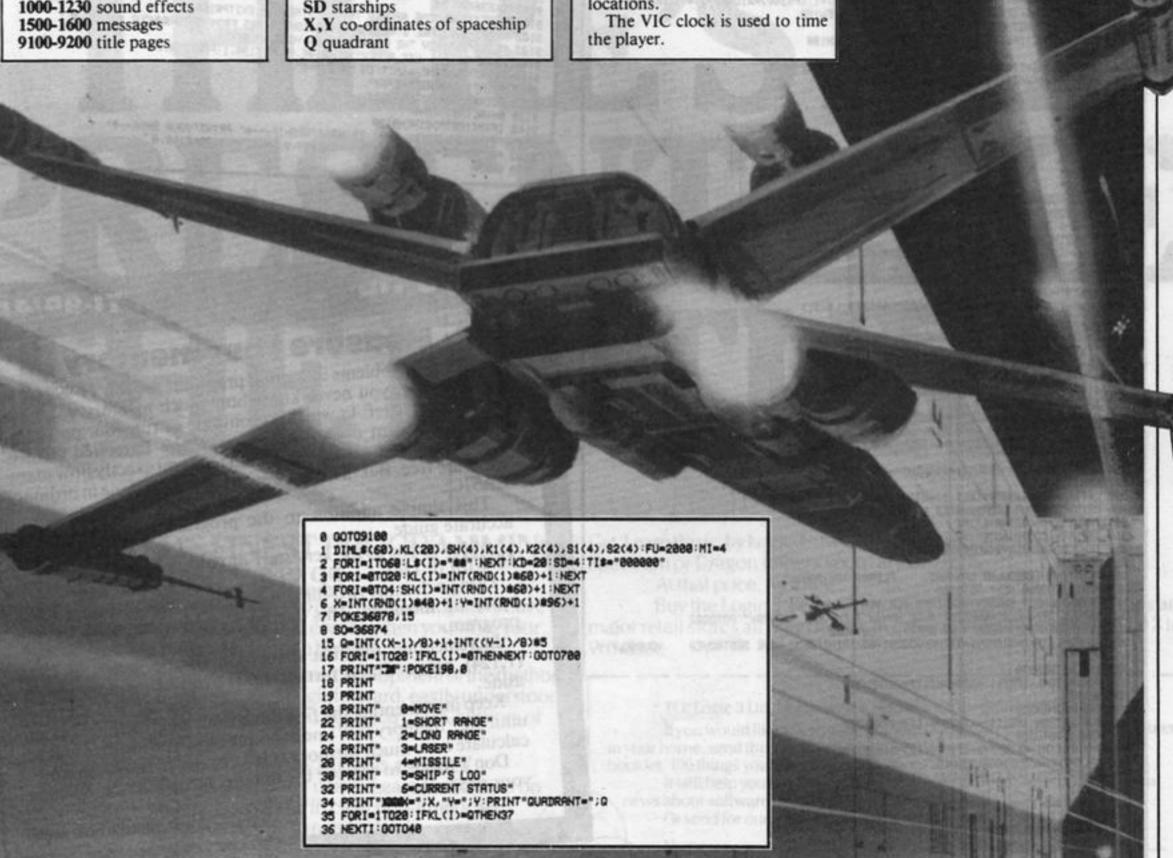
Down add required number to Y Up subtract required number from Y

Note: after shooting a ship enter it into the log record by a long

Hints on conversion

VIC graphics used are: Commodore key plus Q, W, E, R, A, S, Z, X and shift key plus Q, A, X, +, *,

POKEs: 36879,25 white screen, 36878 volume, 36874 sound channel, 198,0 clears keyboard buffer, 7680-8185 screen locations.



at work and as a parent

VIC-20 PROGRAM

```
37 IFKW=1THEN48
 38 PRINT MODANGER KLINGONS!!": PRINT "YOU HAVE LOST";
 39 I=INT(RND(1)#100)+50:FU=FU-1:PRINT1:PRINT*UNITS OF FUELE* :KN=1
 48 GETRS: IFRS=""THEN48
 42 IFTI>TM#3688THENGOTO888
   IFR#="8"THEN188
 46 IFR##"1"THEN158
   IFR4="2"THEN258
 48 IFR#="3"THEN388
49 IFR$="4"THEN488
   IFR##"5"THEN450
51 IFA$="6"THEN500
55 GOT048
100 PRINT"D"
101 PRINT"INPUT COORDINATES OF REQUIRED POSITION"
 105 INPUT"X COORDINATE=";XI
 110 INPUT"Y COORDINATE **; Y1
115 IFX1>480RX1C10RY1>960RY1C1THENPRINT"XXXYOU HAVE FALLEN OUT OFTHE UNIVERSE": EN
128 FU=FU-INT((((X1-X) +2+(Y1-Y) +2)+.5)/2)
125 X=X1:Y=Y1
138 IFFUCETHENPRINT "MONYOU HAVE RUN OUT OF FUEL" END
135 GOTO15
 150 PRINT", 3000".
 155 PRINT"
156 PRINT"
157 PRINT" 14
 158 PRINT"
159 PRINT" 34
160 PRINT" 44
 161 PRINT"
162 PRINT"
            I down the company of time time, it is more than the order
 163 PRINT" 74
 164 PRINT" 84
 165 X1=X-INT((X-1)/8)#8:Y1=Y-INT((Y-1)/8)#8
 166 POKE7771+X1+(Y1#22),65
 168 KL=0:FORI=1T020:IFKL(I)=QTHENKL=KL+1
 178 NEXT: IFKL-8THEN185
 172 FORI=ITOKL
 174 K1(I)=INT(RND(I)#8)+1:K2(I)=INT(RND(I)#8)+1:IFK1(I)=X10RK2(I)=Y1THEN174
 176 FORL=8T0I-1: IFK1(I)=K1(L)ORK2(I)=K2(L)THEN174
 178 NEXTL, I
 188 FORI#1TOKL:POKE7771+K1(I)+(K2(I)#22),88:NEXT
 185 SH=0:FORI=1T04: IFSH(1)=QTHENSH=SH+1
 186 NEXT: IFSH=0THEN202
 188 FORI=1TOSH
 198 S1(1)=INT(RND(1)#8)+1:S2(1)=INT(RND(1)#8)+1:IFS1(1)=X10RS2(1)=Y1THEN198
 192 FORL=0T0I-1: IFS1(I)=81(L)ORS2(I)=82(L)THEN198
 194 NEXTL: IFKL=8THEN288
196 FORL=1TOKL: IFS1(I)=K1(L)ORS2(I)=K2(L)THEN190
 198 NEXTL
200 NEXTI:FORI=1TOSH:POKE7771+81(I)+(82(I)#22),81:NEXT
202 POKE190.0: WAIT190.1: POKE190.0: GOTO15
 258 PRINT",7"
 252 PRINT "X0000
253 PRINT"
 254 PRINT
255 PRINT
256 PRINT"
 257 PRINT®
258 PRINT"
268 Q1=Q:00SUB294:PRINT"#000000000BBBBBBBBBP";L$(Q1)
262 IFXC90RYC9THEN266
264 Q1=Q-6:GOSUB294:PRINT"#00000000BBBBBB";L$(Q1)
266 IFYC9THEN278
268 Q1=Q-5:00SUB294:PRINT"M00000000BBBBBBBBBF;L$(Q1)
278 IFYC90RXD32THEN274
272 Q1=Q-4:GOSUB294:PRINT"#0000000#############;L$(Q1)
274 IFXC9THEN278
276 Q1=Q-1:GOSUB294:PRINT"MODOGGGGBBBBBB";L$(Q1)
278 IFX>32THEN282
282 IFXC90RY>88THEN286
298 1FX>320RY>88THEN293
292 Q1=Q+6:00SUB294:PRINT*#0000000000009888888888898989F;L$(Q1)
293 POKE198, 0: WAIT198, 1: POKE198, 0: 00T015
294 KL=8:FORI=1T028:IFKL(I)=Q1THENKL=KL+1
295 NEXT
296 SH=0:FORI=1T04:IFSH(1)=Q1THENSH=SH+1
297 NEXT
298 L#(Q1)=RIGHT#(STR#(KL),1)+RIGHT#(STR#(SH),1):RETURN
300 PRINT" TMINPUT COORDINATES OF LASER BEAM" : KN=0
385 INPUT"X-COORDINATE"; X2
318 INPUT"Y-COORDINATE"; Y2
312 IFX2<80RX2>80RY2<80RY2>8THEN316
314 GOT0328
316 PRINT"XXX IRREGULAR COMMAND.
                                 PLEASE TRY AGAIN"
318 FORI=1T03888: NEXT: 00T0388
320 PRINT"MINPUT ENERGY REQUIRED FOR BEAM"
322 INPUTL : IFFU-L COTHENPRINT "MYOU HAVEN'T ENOUGH
                                                  ENRGY" 00T0322
323 IFLCOTHENPRINT MOON'T BE DAFT!!!":00T0322
324 FU=FU-L: IFX2=X1ANDY2=Y1THENGOSUB1288: PRINT*XYOU HAVE DESTROYED
                                                                    YOURSELFIT
I" END
325 1FKL=@THEN33@
326 FORI=1TOKL: IFK1(I)=X2ANDK2(I)=Y2THEN335
328 NEXTI
330 IFSH#8THEN350
332 FORI=1TOSH: IFS1(I)=X2ANDS2(I)=Y2THEN348
334 NEXTI:00T0358
335 P=INT(((X1-K1(I))+2+(Y1-K2(I))+2)+.5)#28
336 IFL CPTHENGOSUB1888:00T015
337 FORI=1T020: IFKL(I)=QTHENKL(I)=0:00T0339
338 NEXTI
339 GOSUB1200:KD=KD-1:GOTO15
348 P=INT(((X1-$1(1)) +2+(Y1-$2(1))+2)+.5)#28
341 IFLCPTHENGOSUB1000:00T015
342 FORI=1T04: IFSH(1)=0THENSH(1)=0:00T0346
```

```
358 GOSUB1000: GOTO15
418 IFMI-OTHENPRINT MONOU HAVE NO MISSILES LEFT 11 FOR 1=1703000 NEXT GOTOIS
412 IFRND(1)C. 15THENPRINT MALFUNCTION-MISSILE SELF DESTRUCTED!!! GOTO1500
415 MI-MI-1
428 FORI=1T028: IFKL(1)=9THENKL(1)=8: KD=KD-1
430 FORT=1T04: IFSH(1)=QTHENSH(1)=0:FU=FU+500:SD=SD-1:TIs="000000"
425 NEXTI
440 PRINT MEVERYTHING IN SIGHT ELIMINATEDITE
 442 GOSUB1210 GOTO15
445 FORT=1703000 NEXT : GOTO15
 458 PRINT"J";
 455 FORI=1T068:PRINT" "L$(1);
 468 IF1/5-INT(1/5)RNDIO68THENPRINT"
 478 NEXTI : PRINT" # : POKE198, 8: WAIT198, 1: POKE198, 8: GOTO15
 588 PRINT"THE CURRENT STATUS"
 585 PRINT"
 510 PRINT" ME FUEL . FU
 510 PRINT" MISSILES "MI
 515 PRINT" KLINGONS*"KD
 525 PRINT" TIME EXPIRED="LEFT$(RIGHT$(TI$,4),2)":"RIGHT$(TI$,2)
  538 POKE198.8: WRIT198.1: POKE198.8: GOTO15
                 WELL DONE"
  788 PRINT":300
  785 PRINT "MOVOU HAVE KILLED ALL THE KLINGONS."
  800 PRINT THOUSON HAVE BEEN IN SPACETOD LONG INBETWEEN RESTS 100000
  1818 FORT=15T08STEP-1: POKE36878, 1: FORL=1T0188: NEXTL, 1: POKESO, 8: POKE36878, 15: RETU
   1200 POKESO, 228: FORT=1T0700: NEXT: POKESO, 0
  1218 POKESO+3,178:FORT=1T02888:NEXT:
   1228 FORT=15T08STEP-1: POKESO+4, 1: FORL=1T0188: NEXTL, 1: POKESO+3, 8: POKESO+4, 15
   1230 RETURN
   1585 MI-MI-1: IFRND(1) C. STHEN 1550
   1518 PRINT MYOUR SHIP IS UNDAMAGEDAND YOU CAN PROCEED WITH YOUR MISSION!!!"
   1520 FORI-1T02000:NEXT:00T015
   1568 PRINT MYOUR SHIP WAS DAMAGED BY THE BLAST AND YOU HAVE LOST ENERGY !!!
   1578 FU=FU-INT(RND(1)#488)+288 FORI=1T03888 NEXT:00T015
    1600 PRINT MYOUR SHIP HAS BEEN DESTROYED BY THE BLAST" END
    9188 POKE36879, 25
                                    STARSHIP EXITPRISE!!"
    9181 PRINT "MANEL COME ABOARD THE
    9102 PRINT MYOU ARE STRANDED 10000LIGHT-YEARS FROM EARTHMENOUR MISSIONE
    9183 PRINT DESTROY THE KLINGONS IN YOUR GALAXY"
    9104 PRINT" ME HIT A KEY" : POKE198. 8: WAIT198.1: POKE198.8
    9118 PRINT" TRETINE LIMIT IN MINS 1-8"
    9115 PRINT" 1=HARD 8=ERSY
    9128 GETAS: IFAS "THEN9128
    9138 A-VAL(A$):TM-A
    9150 PRINT" NOW HIT A KEY" : POKE198, 8: WAIT198, 1: POKE198, 8
     9200 GOTO1
```

Micro Tip

TI-99/4A

Measure your memory

One of the problems in writing programs for the TI-99/4A in TI BASIC is you never know how much memory you have used, or have left in which to continue or run your program.

This problem does not arise with the Extended BASIC module, since the SIZE command tells you exactly how many bytes are free. But there is a way that it can be done in ordinary BASIC.

This simple addition to the program will give a fairly accurate guide.

Add this line at the very start of your program: 10 DIM (0,124)

Using a dummy two-dimensional array, this sets aside 1,000 bytes of memory. This memory cannot be used by the

Incrementing the first dimension of the array, ie DIM (1,124), means that a further 1,000 bytes of memory are set

Keep incrementing the first dimension and run the program until the "memory full" message appears. You are then able to calculate how much memory is left for use in the program.

Don't forget to remove the dummy array after completing your program.

Andromeda Software

A gubel tighter, ears in to attack in Standwars

343 NEXTI

346 FU=FU+500:TI\$="000000" 347 GOSUB1200:SD-SD-1:GOTO15



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Series that will follow soon are designed for people who want to
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If you would like to know more about using and programming a computer in your home, send this coupon for your free copy of our 16-page explanatory booklet "100 things you wanted to know about computers."

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Or send for our software catalogue (tick either or both).

Name____

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HCW39

LOGIC 3

I have already/intend to get a _____ microcomputer (delete as inapplicable)

- THE KEY TO THE WORLD OF TOMORROW.

JOYSTICK INTERFACEII ectrul ecx81

JOYSTICK INTERFACE

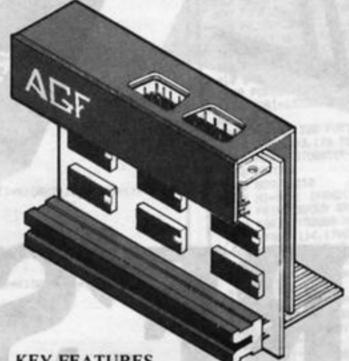
The Interface Module II has been specially designed to plug on to the rear connector of your ZX Spectrum or ZX81 and allow you to connect any standard Atari type digital Joysticks. All of the computer's connections are duplicated on an extension connector so that you can still use any other devices intended for use with your computer.

The Interface Module II resides in the same memory space as the keyboard, which remains fully functional at all times, therefore it will not interfere with anything else connected.

When a suitable joystick is plugged into 'Player 1' socket its action will mimic pressing the cursor keys, up "7", left "5" and so on. The firing button will simulate key ϕ . This unique feature guarantees the best software support.

Take a look at the selection of compatible games we have listed. More are being added all the time as a result of our contact with the various software companies.

A second Joystick may be connected in the 'Player 2' position which simulates in a parallel fashion keys T-Y-U-I-P. This will allow you to play a whole new generation of two player games.



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Don't dawdle... there's cargo to be shipped

This is a fast moving game in which you have to move 12 pieces of cargo from three different ports to a city dock.

The 12 ships in the fleet start their voyage from the city dock and are steered to berth at any of the three ports with narrow entrances.

When the cargo has been loaded the ship is steered back to the city dock with an equally narrow entrance.

Collision with the quay results in either the loss of a ship or a ship and cargo depending on whether you are sailing north or south.

A fair level of skill is required and the game is addictive.

Graphic notes: 70 caps shift 5; 120 caps shift 3,8, caps shift 6,6,8, caps shift 3; 135 caps shift

can you steer a steady course? Type in Ron Ridge's program for either model of the Spectrum and see if you are a suitable candidate for life aboard ship

Hints on conversion

Because no user defined graphics are required (they can be added if desired) the programme is easily adapted to other computers and can be used as it stands on the ZX81 with some substitutions for quay and cargo graphics.

Variables

SH ships K cargo N movement north S movement south AS,BS,CS cargo at three ports (graphics) A,B,C number of cargo at each

How it works

10 GOSUB for instructions 30-90 set up variables 110-150 set up screen 160-210 move ships south 220-260 calculate final position of southbound ship and if successful, load cargo 280 missed dock — ship lost 300-355 move ships north to city 360-395 successful landing at city 490 reduce ships if landings successful 500-510 confirm safe delivery of cargo 520 end of game

ships remaining 540 option to replay or end

530 return for next voyage if any

570-630 print full instructions

```
RON RIDGE
   5 REM FAST
                CARGO
          : GO SUB 570
  10 CLS
  20 PAPER 5: BORDER 7: INK @
  30 LET SH=1: LET K=0:
  40 LET N=120
  50 LET 5=120
  BO LET A=4: LET B=A: LET C=B
          日第二日本
  80 LET
          C$=B$
     LET
  90
 110 PRINT TAB 0; PAPER 7; INVER
 100 CLS
135 FOR 0=0 TO 31: PRINT AT 21,
140 PLOT 24,21: DRAW 0,-4: PLOT 27,21: DRAW 0,-4: PLOT 104,21: DRAW 0,-4: PLOT 107,21: DRAW 0,-4: PLOT 184,21: DRAW 0,-4: PLOT 4: PLOT 184,21: DRAW 0,-4: PLOT
         DRAW 0,-4
 150 PLOT 124,160: PLOT 125,160:
187,21:
 PLOT 130,160: PLOT 131,150
  160 LET 5=120
  170 FOR F=158 TO 11 STEP -1
  180 IF INKEYS ="X" THEN LET
  190 IF INKEYS="" THEN LET S=S+
  200 PLOT 5,F
  210 NEXT F
  220 IF 5=25 OR 5=26 THEN LET A=
      IF S=105 OR S=106 THEN LET
 9-1
  230
 B=B-1
       IF 5=185 OR 5=186 THEN LET
  240
 C=C-1
       IF. A=-1 OR B=-1 OR C=-1 THE
  250
 N GO TO 430
  260 IF 5=25 OR 5=26 OR 5=105 OR
  5=106 OR 5=185 OR 5=186 THEN BE
 EP .5,5: GO TO 300
  270 PAUSE 50
  280 PRINT PAPER 7; INK 1; FLASH
 1; AT 10,7; "LOADING BAY MISSED";
AT 12,11; "SHIP LOST": PAUSE 100
   290 GO TO 490
   300 LET N=5+3
  310 FOR P=3 TO 160
  320 IF INKEY $= "X" THEN LET N=N-
  330 IF INKEY $= "" THEN LET N=N+
```

340 PLOT N,P 350 NEXT P 355 FOR U=1 TO 20 STEP 1 360 IF N=126 OR N=127 OR N=128 THEN BEEP .05,U: BEEP .1,-U: NEX T U: GO TO 380 370 GO TO 460 380 PAUSE 50 390 PRINT PAPER 6; INK 1; FLASH 1; AT 4,7; CARGO DELIVERED " 395 PRINT INK 2; FLASH 1; AT 0,1 400 PRUSE 200 410 LET K=K+1 420 GO TO 100 IF A=-1 THEN LET A=0 IF B=-1 THEN LET B=0 450 IF C=-1 THEN LET C=0 460 PRINT INK 2; PAPER 7; FLASH 1; AT 10,1; "LANDING BAY MISSED C ARGO LOST": PAUSE 100 PAUSE 100 480 490 LET SH=SH+1
500 IF SH=13 THEN CLS
510 IF SH=13 THEN PRINT PAPER 5
INK 1; AT 10,8; " UOYAGE OVER. "
AT 12,4; " CARGO DELIVERED = "; K 520 IF SH=13 THEN GO TO 540 530 GO TO 100 540 PRINT AT 20,5; "ANOTHER GAME ": PAUSE (Y/N) 550 IF INKEY \$="Y" OR INKEY \$="Y" THEN GO TO 20 560 IF INKEY \$="N" OR INKEY \$=""" THEN CLS : PRINT PAPER 1, INK 5 570 PRINT PAPER 6; INK 1; AT 1,9 FAST CARGO 580 PRINT AT 3,1; "You have 12 Peces of cargo to move from 3 d ieces of cargo to ifferent ports to at the top of the screen."; AT 8 ,1; "Each ship must be steered to loading bay and then returne 590 PRINT AT 12,1; "Docking must be made between .. the black li ies at every port. 595 PRINT AT 15,1; "You have 12 ships and gain an extra ship red safely to the city dock 600 PRINT AT 20,3; "Use keys cargo delive city dock." 610 PRINT #0;" PRESS ANY KEY TO BEGIN." 520 PAUSE 0 630 RETURN

Fun and games in

Our reviewers give down-to-earth opinions of some games set in space

Missile **Defence** Spectrum £5.95

Anirog Software, 8 High Street, Horley, Surrey

Missile Defence is a conventional Space Invaders-type game in which you attempt to shoot down marauding aircraft, their smart bombs and showers of missiles before all your assets are wiped

out by them.

All are accurately targeted on your installations, and to attack them you move a sight around the screen with the cursor keys.

Pressing the fire key then launches a missile from one of the three silos, and a convincing nuclear cloud appears in the target area, destroying anything nearby, and earning you some points for whatever you hit.

Very satisfying, but the enemy is still coming. If you survive, you

Attack on Alpha Centauri 32K BBC £7.95

Software Invasion, 50 Elborough Street, Southfields, London SW18 5DN

Is there no end to the number of sequence has a stunning display. variations possible on the arcade game Galaxians? This latest no means exhausted.

Throughout Attack on Alpha graphics is superb.

drawn from which a stream of very hostile-looking space wasps collection. pour, and it is your task to shoot down as many as possible before 1 your inevitable destruction.

The creatures attack by I suddenly rushing forward and dropping bombs all round you. This is achieved by using per-

spective to create a pseudo-3D effect on the screen.

Each screen of creatures gets progressively more difficult, with more wasps attacking in a single formation.

Sound is also used with good effect, making the explosions very impressive. Even the title

The only criticism I have is that this game is basically centred on version from Software Invasion the Space Invaders/Galaxians shows that the possibilities are by theme, and possibly a little dated these days.

But I would thoroughly recom-Centauri, the quality of the mend it for anyone looking for a fast and challenging game. The A very realistic moonscape is graphics alone make it a worthwhile addition to anyone's games

nstructions	70%
olayability	75%
graphics	98%
alue for money	80%



start another round with fresh missiles and a higher level of difficulty.

The game can be played from the keyboard or a Kempston joystick. It loads easily and then offers a colourful but silent demonstration and a set of instructions to supplement those on the insert.

These repeat until you stop them to go into the main game,

which has good sound effects and displays the present score and best score so far.

90%
80%
70%
60%



Vultures Commodore 64 plus joystick £6.95

J. Morrison Micros, 2 Glensdale Street, Leeds LS9 9JJ

This Space-Invader type game starts off with two rows of vultures along the top of the screen.

While you are moving back and forth along the bottom of the screen shooting them down, individual vultures suddenly start swooping down on you, dropping eggs.

If the eggs land on you, you lose one of your three lives. On the other hand, if you don't manage to shoot down a swooping vulture or avoid it, it will pick you up and carry you to eternity, with a corresponding loss of one life.

During the game, the top of the

screen displays your current score and highest score to date. At the end of the game a list of players' names with their highest score is displayed in a Hall of Fame record.

The screen graphics were quite good, without being exceptional. More importantly, the colours chosen were sensible so that the action was clear and the displays easily readable.

The joystick action was fast and smooth.

The cassette was nicely packaged but there were no instructions, the rules becoming apparent as you played the game. The game was quite enjoyable but not particularly compulsive.

instructions 10% playability 70% graphics 80% value for money 70%

Stellar Triumph Commodore 64 €6.99

Slough, Berks

The scenario is pretty standard. ticularly banal. game for two. put them in an Asteroids-type sticks and keyboard or any com-

arrangement. Chuck in a few aliens, rocks, black holes and monoliths and make the game easy to customise look over. and you've got it.

The aim is to simply slice up your opponent and anything else you find.

The nice touch is that you can set up the game to suit your own preferences. All parameters are adjustable: speed of ship, fire rate, inertia, how many aliens and

gravity effects are just a few.

While the overall game instructions are minimal, the instructions for parameter changes are excellent.

An action freeze option is Romik, 272 Argyll Avenue, available if you want a rest during

Graphically, the game is Rather a novel one: an arcade adequate but not mind-bending. Explosion effects were par-

There are options for both joy-

Not my idea of a great game, but arcade freaks should give it a A.W.

65%
75%
70%
80%



Starfighter 48K Oric £6.95

Durell Software, Castle Lodge, Castle Green, Taunton TA1 4AB

An impressive display shows your spaceship in the centre of the screen and an area of space immediately around you.

On the edge of the screen, among many flashing lights, are several gauges showing energy,

shields, armaments and so on, as well as a small square showing where you and the bad guys are in the sector.

The object of the game is to zip around the galaxy chasing the nasties until you either kill them all or get killed trying.

As soon as you have killed all the aliens, you can move to the next sector simply by moving on to a stargate as soon as you find one.

.The aliens can be killed in two

ways: by the usual photon torpedoes or by the more interesting method of pressing the space bar when one of the alien craft is very close.

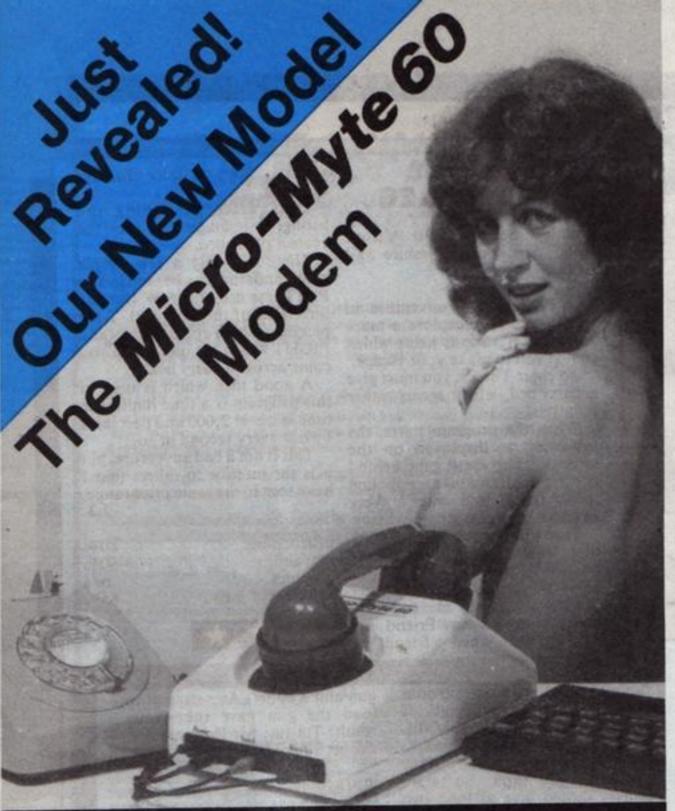
The screen changes to show a 3D display of you chasing the alien through space. You can then shoot him using your phasors whenever he strays into your sights.

The main problem with this game is that it soon becomes apparent that there is not very much to do. The 3D is quite fun, but even that becomes boring after a few games.

The game would benefit greatly if you could use joysticks or if there was more variety, but as it stands it's nicely done but rather

instructions	85%
playability	65%
graphics	80%
value for money	50%





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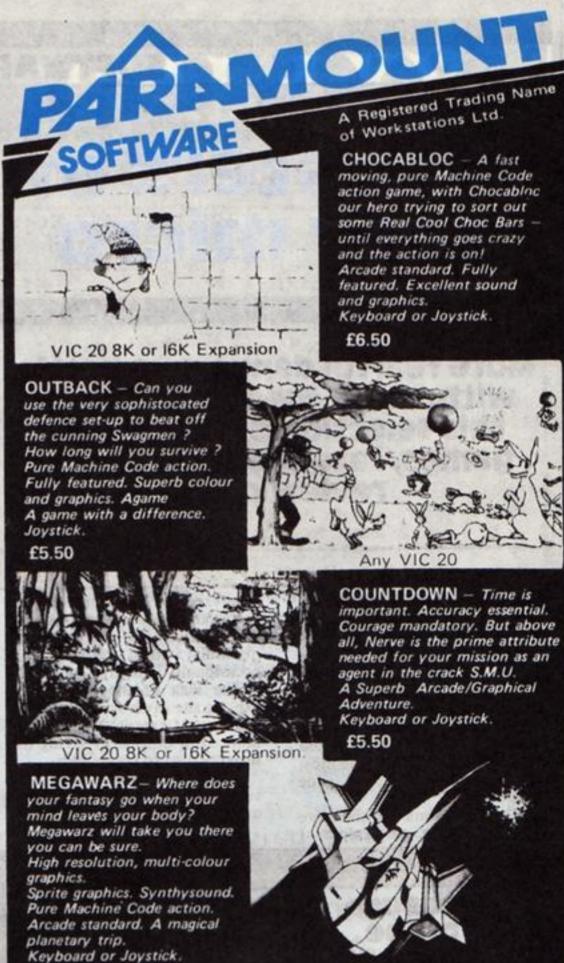
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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

More fearful dangers to battle with, more foes to outwit in this selection of adventure games, rated for you by our review panel

Foois Gold Commodore 64 £6.99

Romik Software, 272 Argyll Avenue, Slough SLI 4HE

The game takes place in an old mine, which, while not the most original idea, does offer wide

The inlay claims that there are over 150 rooms to explore. I

didn't check the number, but there certainly are a lot of them. The description of each room was normally quite detailed but occasionally repetitive.

The idea of the game is to explore the caves and recover all the items of treasure hidden in the mine. You do this by giving the usual two-word commands.

There are various problems, such as locked doors and dangerous animals, to foil your efforts.

The game is purely textual and

The Pit TI-99/4A £6

Stainless Software, 10 Alstone Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 5AH

The Pit is a text adventure in which you must explore a maze and recover various items which enable you to make your escape.

To enter The Pit you must give a password, which seems rather pointless.

When the program starts, the following is displayed on the screen: "The west gate behind you the water of a lake is bubbling speak friend and enter". Very strange!

This would lead you to think ins that "friend" (if anything) is the pla password. Indeed, when H (for gra help) is pressed, the computer val message. It was 'say Friend and enter"". But when "friend" is

entered, the computer displays "Wrong"!

Only after examining the listing, I managed to find the correct password.

There are only a few simple commands that can be used in The Pit. These are N,E,S,W (for the directions of the compass), T for picking an item up, and RUN and FIGHT which are used when you come across a nasty beast.

A good idea which is used in this program is a time limit. The time starts at 2,000 and decreases by one every second or so.

This is not a bad adventure, but it is far inferior to others that I have seen in the same price range.

structions	80%
ayability	60%
aphics	n/a
lue for money	65%



functions well without obvious bugs. The game is well protected and presented unbelievable difficulties when loading.

There was only one copy of the game on the tape. Software houses should give at least two copies of the game on the tape to allow for loading problems.

My other complaint was the use of LOAD when you want to load a saved game. In the mine are a

gun and a bullet. Any attempt to load the gun gave the wrong result. Tut-tut, Mr Programmer, deduct 10 points.

instructions	65%
playability	75%
graphics	n/a
value for money	90%



Treasure Tombe Dragon 32 £7.95

Dungeon Software, Milton House, St Johns Street, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1GH

A departure from usual adventure games, Treasure Tombe is a real-time adventure using low Treasure Tombe a beginners' resolution graphics and text screen.

You must explore the 90 caves displayed on the screen. There are 32 pieces of treasure to be found and taken back to Room 1, your starting point and the only room free of monsters.

These unsavoury creatures move stealthily towards you and should be avoided as much as possible, as they sap your strength with every attack.

I could discuss the relative

merits of using a full stop to represent wine, or indeed any of the other symbols used to denote objects, but still the game is interesting and enjoyable.

I have played similar games on earlier, more primitive computers and this game is not a great advance on the originals.

However, it is very playable, and a change from all the usual type of adventures.

Dungeon Software call game, which I suppose is a fair classification, but believe me, the game is far from easy to complete. Being real time, you have little chance of making carefully thought out decisions. C.G.

instructions	80%
playability	70%
graphics	55%
value for money	60%

* * *

Alice in Wunderlab Commodore 64 €7.50

Arthur Loosely, 18 Longlands Road, Sideup, Kent

This is a text-based adventure game set in an experimental reactor laboratory. It rather cleverly combines the usual mazetype adventure with some extra features.

Once you have started, the ing variation on the Dungeon and reactor problems develop, and it's a race against the meltdown time to prevent the inevitable big bang.

To do this you have to find your way through the maze of rooms, overcoming problems on the way, to locate a Time Machine.

This machine allows you to go back in time, if you know how, to

a point where you can prevent the

catastrophe. There are three levels of difficulty for the game and I reckon even the first will take many hours to solve. Still, depending on how well you do you may get a medal.

Once you start moving through time, however, it's a different story. Some of the building work may be different. There can't be many games where you need separate maps for different years.

The scale of the game means that it takes a long time to load, four to five minutes, but if you You are issued with a personal like adventures it's worth it. I code and a reactor start-up code. enjoyed this game as an interest-Dragons theme.

	70%
nstructions	70%
olayability	50%
graphics	70%
value for money	



The Fabulous Wanda **Commodore 64** £7.95

Games Machine, Business and Technology Centre, Bessemer Drive, Stevenage, Herts

When I first saw the grandiose name I was filled with visions of great things. Unfortunately I was out of luck.

You play the part of some kind of pangalactic playboy who is dumped on a planet.

You have to accumulate cash to pay the customs man and to gain access to Wanda who is supposed to know the 'secret'.

By playing a sort of arcade game, you can get rid of the customs man. The other sum of cash must be found in the four bizarre establishments in the High

The game is supposed to be a

sort of fantasy adventure, but your choice of action is severely limited, and the results depend more on luck than skill.

The idea of the game is good, but the programmer couldn't deliver the goods. A quick peep at the listing showed that the game was written inefficiently in BASIC.

The cassette inlay mentioned arcade action. Well, it might have been five years ago, but it certainly isn't now.

Graphically, the game was adequate but not exciting. In all, a great idea spoilt by weak programming and insufficient imag-A.W. ination.

instructions	70%
playability	55%
graphics	60%
value for money	40%



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COMMODORE 64 PROGRAM

This program allows you to turn your Commodore 64 into an impressive synthesizer, as well as to experiment with sound effects easily and quickly.

The program is both fast and versatile, as you will appreciate from the following description.

Speed comes from a machine code routine. As sound rountines are virtually untranslatable from one machine to another, I decided that using code would not remove any major insight into the program.

The machine code gets a key and, if it is a note; collects note, octave, sound, waveform and envelope data from pre-POKEd files, and stores them in the sound registers. This means that playing can be smooth, quick and professional.

This playing can be interrupted to define a function. As the 64 has three sound channels, the first three rows (1 to -, Q to *, and A to =) represent a different sound and contain a full octave: A to G sharp. The keys found immediately after these cut the sound of that row.

Each row can have octave, envelope and waveform independently defined. Also, for ease and versatility, envelopes can be stored and recalled quickly.

The most interesting facet of the program is that tunes can be remembered and replayed.

To remember a tune press F4, and F6 when you have finished. F8 is pressed to recall the tune. For experimentation, envelopes, octaves and waveforms can be revised before you play back the tune.

An extra feature is that you can play back the tune at any speed (maximum speed increase usually 10 times) and so make yourself sound like a real professional! (N.B. sound cutoff is not remembered).

Note keys have auto repeat and predefined envelopes are smooth (long duration) so that notes are played at constant volume until the key is released, when the sound fades as per the envelope.

Thus, it is best to use a smooth envelope as a sharp envelope will repeat endlessly, sounding like a musical machine gun!

Extensive alterations can be made.

For instance, if you disagree with my note per key choice, DATA in lines 2310 to 2340 can be changed. Another idea is that keys on the bottom row could be defined to give instant changes during the tune. Many additions can be made, and the program can be used as a tool as well as a plaything.

Note: above each line using a graphic symbol is a REM to tell you what it does. These REMs can be deleted.

Make your micro make music

Compose a masterpiece and listen as your Commodore 64 plays it back to you. Type in and use David Rees' program for fun and for more serious uses



8 REM# SYNTHESIZER # 9 REM# BY DAVID REES #

10 FORN=0TO2 20 FORM=0TO255

30 READA: IFA=-1THEN60 40 POKE12032+N#256+M, R

50 NEXTM 60 NEXTN

70 DIMS1(100):DIMS2(100)

80 DIMR(400): DIMT(400)

100 POKE12800,1:POKE12801,2:POKE12802,3

105 0(0)=6:0(1)=5:0(2)=4

110 POKE13056, 60: POKE13057, 1: POKE13058, 60

115 E(0)=0:E(1)=1:E(2)=2:81(0)=60

120 POKE13059,1:POKE13060,10:POKE13061,15

125 S2(0)=1:S1(1)=60:S2(1)=1:S1(2)=10

130 POKE13312,0:POKE13313,7:POKE13314,14

135 S2(2)=15

140 POKE13568,33: POKE13569,33: POKE13570,33

145 W(0)=1:W(1)=1:W(2)=1

150 S=54272 : POKES+24, 15

160 FORN=0T023:POKES+N, 0:NEXT

169 REM*HI BIT SUS/REL LASTS FOR EVER*

170 G(0)=17:G(1)=33:G(2)=65:G(3)=129

189 REM#[CLR]

190 PRINT" TSYNTHESIZER"

How it works

10-60 POKE DATA to memory 100-170 store initial values in variables and memory 190-290 PRINT out display

300-500 main routine, test for key press

1000-1090 octave definition 1100-1190 envelope choice per voice

1200-1290 waveform definition 1300-1390 reset chosen sound channel

1400-1550 define an envelope 1900-1950 GET key subroutines

1960-1970 messages 2000-2160 machine code DATA

2200-2300 which key gives which note 2310-2340 Base note DATA (two

9000-9030 remember a note 10000-11010 play back note



Variables

F final note number
NO remembered note number
S sound register start
TT playback speed factor

V voice times 7
E(2) envelope per voice

G(3) waveform numbers for POKEing
O(2) octave per voice

R(400) recall notes
T(400) delay time per note
S1(100),S2(100) defined envelope

w(2) waveform per voice

Hints on conversion

Unfortunately, as sound parameters vary so much between computers, conversion will need extensive alterations, depending on the complexity of your commands.

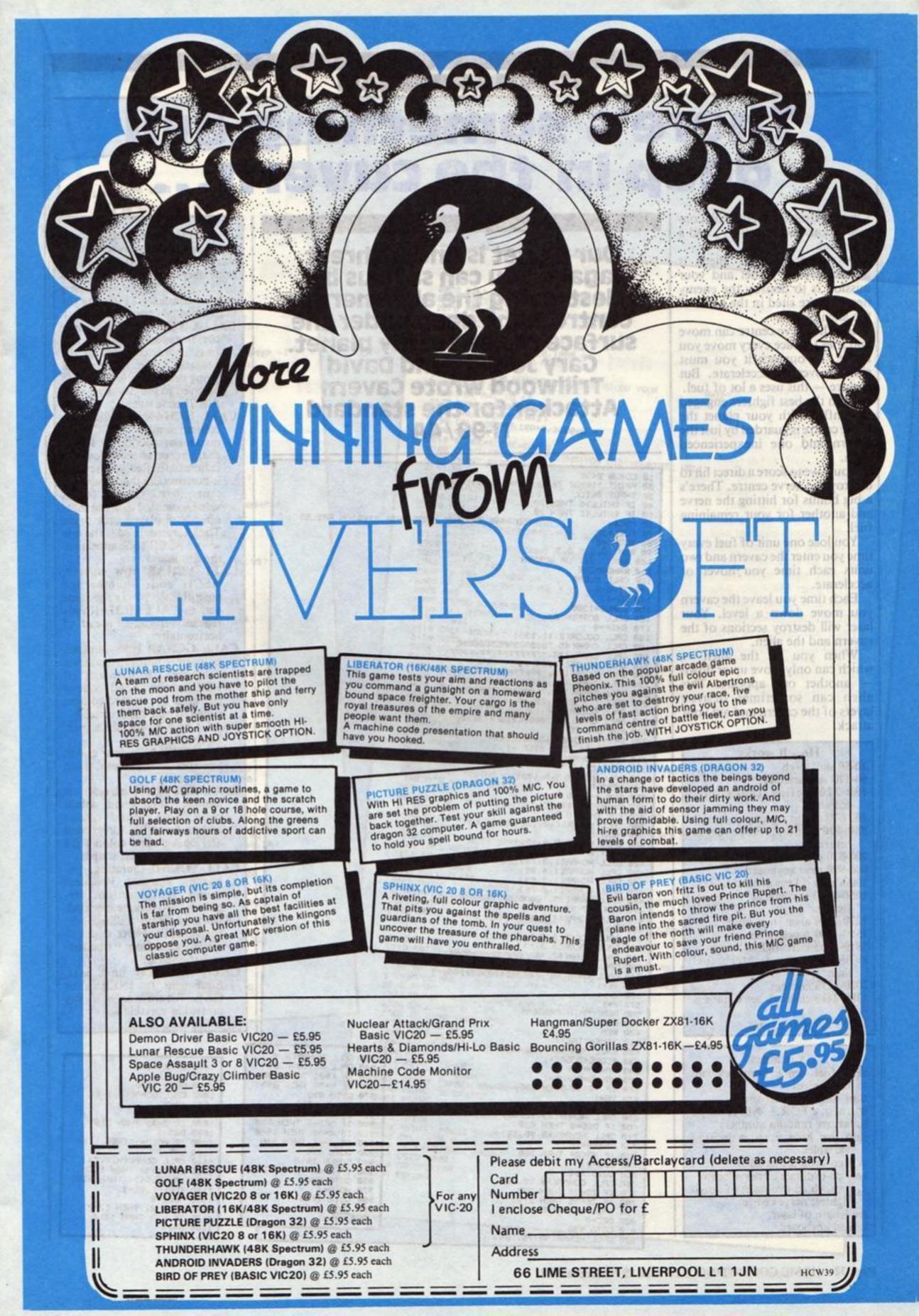
The machine code routine GETs one of the octave keys pressed and plays a note, using DATA POKEd in by the BASIC part of the program. This should be replaced by a GET key statement, an array for key to note conversion, and your sound commands.

POKE commands are either used to pass data to the machine code, or (if the variable S is in the statement) to set volume or clear the sound registers. Thus, they can mainly be ignored if you have sound commands, as variables will replace them.

Otherwise, BASIC commands are fairly standard, and the only other main conversion should be to change the limits of figures used.

COMMODORE 64 PROGRAM

	The state of the s
199 REM*[DWN]	1495 S2(N)=R*16
200 PRINT"MVOICE OCTAVE ENVELOPE";	1500 PRINT"RELEASE": GOSUB1930
210 PRINT" WAVEFORM"	1505 S2(N)=S2(N)+8
220 FORV=0TO2	1505 S2(N)=S2(N)+A 1510 FORV=0T02
229 REM#[DWN]	1520 X=E(V):POKE13056+V*2,S1(X)
230 PRINT"M"V, 0(V), E(V), W(V)	1530 POKE13057+V#2,S2(X)
240 NEXTY	1540 NEXTY
249 REM#[DWN]	1550 GOTO190
250 PRINT"XKEYS:"	1900 INPUT"WHICH VOICE";V
260 PRINT"F1 = OCTAVE", "F3 = ENVELOPE"	1910 IFV<00RV>2THEN1900
270 PRINT"F5 = WAVEFORM", "F7 = RESET"	1920 RETURN
280 PRINT"F2 = ENVELOPE", "F4 = REMEMBER"	1930 INPUTR
290 PRINT"F6 = END ","F8 = PLAYBACK"	
299 REM#MRIN ROUTINE*	1950 RETURN
300 SYS12032:GETR\$:POKE866, PEEK (865)	1959 REM*[HOME][DWN]
310 IFPEEK(780)<>99THEN9000	1960 PRINT" MOREMEMBERING": GOTO300
320 IFR\$=" 1"THENV=7:GOTO1300	1969 REM*[HOME][DWN]
330 IFR\$=CHR\$(13)THENY=14:GOTO1300	1970 PRINT" (GOTO300
340 IFA\$="£"THENV=0:GOTO1300	2000 DATA165, 197, 141, 97, 3, 201, 64, 208, 1
350 IFA\$="M"THEN1000	2005 DATR96,205,98,3,208,1,96,24,10
360 IFA\$="M"THEN1100	2010 DATA24,168,185,,48,201,99,208,1,96
370 IFR\$="IN"THEN1200	2020 DATA133,251,185,1,48,133,252
380 IFR\$="#"THEN100	2030 DATA164,251,185,,49
390 IFAS="M"THEN1400	2040 DATA133,253,185,1,49,133,254
400 IFAS="M"THENK=1:NO=0:GOTO1960	2050 DATA164,252,185,,50,133,2,201,
410 IFAS="M"THENK=0:F=N0:GOTO1970	2060 DRTR240,21,170,24,70,253,24,70,254
420 IFA\$="#"THEN10000	2070 DATA144,9,24,165,253,24,105,128,24
500 GOTO300	2080 DATA133,253,202,208,236,165,252
999 REM#[CLR]	2090 DATR168, 185, ,52, 133, 2, 185, ,53
1000 PRINT" OCTAVE DEFINITION"	2100 DATA141,99,3,152,24,10,24,168
1010 GOSUB1900	2110 DATA185,,51,133,251,185,1,51
1020 PRINT	2120 DATA133,252,164,2,169,,153,4,212
1030 INPUT"WHICH OCTAVE";0	2130 DATR165,251,153,5,212,165,252
1040 IFOC10RO>7THEN1030	2140 DATA153,6,212,165,254,153,1,212
1050 O(V)=0:POKE12800+V,7-0	2150 DATA165,253,153,,212,173,99,3
1090 GOTO190	2160 DATA153,4,212,169,,96,-1
1099 REM*[CLR]	2199 REM# KEY TO NOTE DATA*
1100 PRINT" ENVELOPE CHOICE"	2200 DATA99,,99,,99,,99,,99,
1110 GOSUB1900	2210 DATR99,,99,,4,,2,1,,2,6,
1120 FORN=0T063	2220 DATA99,,2,2,4,1,99,,8,,6,1
1130 IF81(N)=0ANDS2(N)=0THEN1150	2230 DRTR4,2,10,,99,,6,2,8,1,99,
1140 PRINTN, S1(N), S2(N)	2240 DATR12,,10,1,8,2,14,,99,,10,2
1150 NEXT	2250 DATA12,1,99,,16,,14,1,12,2,18,
1160 INPUT"WHICH ENVELOPE";E 1170 IFE<00RE>63THEN1160	2260 DATA99,,14,2,16,1,99,,20,,18,1
1180 E(V)=E:POKE13056+V#2,S1(E)	2270 DRTR16,2,22,,99,,18,2,20,1,99,
.1185 POKE13057+V#2,S2(E)	2280 DATA99,,22,1,20,2,99,,99,,22,2
1190 GOTO190	2290 DATR99,,99,,,99,,99,,2,
1199 REM*[CLR]	2300 DATA99,,99,,,1,99,,-1 2309 REM#NOTE VALUE TABLE*
1200 PRINT" WAVEFORM DEFINITION"	2310 DATA199,112,124,119,151,126
1210 GOSUB1900	2320 DATA30,134,24,142,139,150
4 CCC TUDUTUUM TERMINAL	2330 DATA126,159,250,168,6,179
1230 IFWCOORWD3THEN1220	2340 DRTR172,189,243,200,230,212,-1
1230 IFWC00RW>3THEN1220 1240 W(V)=W:POKE13568+V,G(W)	9000 IFK=00RPEEK(780)=64THEN300
1290 GOTO190	9010 R(NO)=PEEK(865):T(NO)=TI:TI\$="000000"
1300 FORN=0T06	9014 REM*[HOME][DWN*9][LEFT]
1300 FORN=0T06 1310 POKES+V+N,0	9015 PRINT" #DODODODODOON"NO"II "
1320 NEXTN	9020 NO=NO+1
1390 GOTO300	9030 GOTO300
1399 REM#[CLR]	9020 NO=NO+1 9030 GOTO300 10000 GOTO11000 10002 FORN=0TOF
1400 PRINT"3 ENVELOPE DEFINITION"	10002 FORN=0TOF
1440 INPUT"ENVELOPE NUMBER"; N	10005 TI\$="000000"
1450 IFN<00RN>63THEN1440	10010 POKE780, R(N): SYS12034: POKE866, 64
1460 PRINT"INPUT:"	10020 IFN=0THEN10050
1470 PRINT"ATTACK": GOSUB1930	10040 IFT(N)/TT>TITHEN10040
1475 S1(N)=R*16	10050 NEXT 10060 GOTO190
1480 PRINT"DECAY": GOSUB1930	
1485 S1(N)=S1(N)+A	11000 INPUT"TIME REDUCTION"; TT
1490 PRINT"SUSTAIN": GOSUB1930	11010 GOTO10002
	11379120 30 211



There's something evil deep in the cavern...

Cavern Attacker needs skill, concentration, judgement . . . and a little luck.

A sinister race of aliens is attacking your planet and your mission is to destroy the enemy nerve centre sited in the heart of the alien planet.

But the nerve centre can move and tries to trace every move you make. To outpace it you must either hover or accelerate. But beware - this uses a lot of fuel.

With the best fighters engaged in conflict with your planet the nerve centre is guarded by just the cavern and one inexperienced alien.

You have to score a direct hit to destroy the nerve centre. There's a big bonus for hitting the nerve and another for your remaining fuel.

You lose one unit of fuel every time you enter the cavern and two units each time you hover or accelerate.

Each time you leave the cavern you move down a level. Your laser will destroy sections of the cavern and the alien.

When you hit the alien which can only move up or down - another one appears. This alien can sometimes destroy layers of the cavern and aid your attack.

How it works

20-50 skill levels 60-170 set variables 180-270 define characters, 280-570 set up screen 580-690 display, move nerve centre 00-830 display, move bombs 840-990 read keyboard 1000-1040 if keys pressed GOTO 1050-1260 movement of astrofighter 1270-1500 alien ship, laser 1510-1800 acceleration 1810-1960 astro-fighter's laser 1970-2010 astro-fighter's fuel limit 2020-2370 endings 2380-2420 check to see if alien is

Variables

2430-2930 instructions

skill, fuel, score, bonus explain themselves time number of moves Iza, a, g, c FOR ... NEXT loops b, laz, rrr random numbers ship, dec, hold, z, zb, zs decision variables xs x co-ordinate of alien ye y co-ordinate of nerve centre x,y; xb, yb co-ordinates of astrofighter; nerve centre sec length of laser k read keyboard

Our planet is under threat again. You can save us by destroying the alien nerve centre, sunk deep under the surface of the enemy planet. **Gary Jowett and David Trillwood wrote Cavern** Attacker for the standard TI-99/4A

```
GOSUB 2438
PRINT "INPUT SKILL LEVEL(1-6)1-ERSY"
38 INPUT SKILL
48 IF SKILL S THEN 28
58 IF SKILL (1 THEN 28
                          YOU HAVE CRASHED YOUR SHIP MISSION FAILED
    MSG8-"
    FUEL-32
98 SCORE=8
98 REM G.J & D.T
188 REM SET UP SCREEN
118 RANDOMIZE
 120 CALL CLEAR
 138 TIME-8
 140 XS=11
150 BONUS=1500
160 CALL SCREEN(8)
170 SHIP=0
 188 CALL COLOR(2,11,1)
 190 CALL CHAR(45, "000000AA55000000")
200 CALL CHAR(120, "FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF"
210 CALL COLOR(11,14,1)
 220 CALL CHAR( 115, "FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
230 CALL CHAR( 121, "FFFFFFFFFFF7E3C18")
 248 CALL CHAR( 122, "183C7EFFFFFFFFF")
 258 CRLL COLOR(12,15,1)
 268 CALL COLOR(5,7,1)
  278 CALL CHRR(64, "8888E213FF13E288
      FOR A=3 TO 31
      B=INT(RND#8 >+12-SKILL
      FOR C=24 TO B STEP -1
  310 CALL HCHAR(C, A, 120)
  320 NEXT C
  338 CALL HCHAR(B, A, 122)
  340 NEXT R
  358 FOR A=3 TO 31
  368 B=INT(RND#8)+2
  378 FOR C=1 TO B
388 CALL HCHAR(C, A, 128)
  398 NEXT C
488 CALL HCHAR(8, 8, 121)
  428 CALL HCHAR(1,3,78)
  438 CALL HCHAR(1,4,85)
448 CALL HCHAR(1,5,69)
  458 CALL HCHAR(1,6,76)
  468 CALL CHAR(35, "8888187EFF888888")
  478 FOR 847 TO 32
  488 CALL HCHAR(1,A,115)
  490 NEXT A
  500 CALL COLOR(1,9,1)
  518 CALL COLOR(9,3,1)
  528 CALL CHAR( 97, "80C8FEFF888888888")
  530 CALL COLOR(18,2,1)
  548 CALL CHAR(184, "8808543838381888")
   558 YE=1
   568 X=11
   578 Y=1
   588 REM MAIN PROGRAM
   590 REM
   688 REM
   618 TIME=TIME+1
   628 CALL HCHAR(23, YE, 32)
   638 SCORE=SCORE+1
                                                            848 CALL KEY(8,K,S)
   640 RANDOMIZE
   650 BONUS-BONUS-1
   668 IF YEC32 THEN 688
```

Hints on conversion

If you are going to try to convert this program to another machine. remember that the Texas has a 24 by 32 screen and it uses userdefined characters. Here are the more unusual commands:

CALL CHAR (ASCII code number, hexadecimal string). Defines characters used in the program. The hexadecimal string describes the pattern to be given to the character with ASCII code stated

CALL HCHAR (row number, column number, ASCII code, number of repetitions). Places character on screen at row and column specified, and repeats it horizontally the number of times stated. If this fourth value is omitted then the character is displayed only once. The character used is the one whose ASCII code appears in the command

CALL VCHAR (row number, ASCII code, number of repetitions). Works the same way as CALL HCHAR only repeats vertically instead of horizontally

CALL GCHAR (row number, column number, numeric variable). Equivalent of PEEK, assigns ASCII code of character at row and column stated to numerical variable

CALL CLEAR clears the screen. Equivalent to CLS

CALL SCREEN (colour code). Specifies screen colour, using colour code

CALL COLOUR (character set number, foreground colour code, background colour code). Specifies foreground and background colours for all characters in set stated

CALL SOUND (duration, frequency, volume). Produces sound and duration, frequency, and volume specified. Duration is in milliseconds, frequency in Hertz and volume in scale from 0 (loudest) to 30 (quietest)

CALL KEY (key unit, k,s). Equivalent to INKEYS or GET. Returns code if key pressed in variable K.

```
838 CALL HCHAR(X,Y,32)
850 IF K-81 THEN 1000
860 IF K-76 THEN 880
878 GOTO 898
880 GOSUB 1818
890 IF K-90 THEN 1020
988 IF DEC=1 THEN 958
918 IF K#32 THEN 1848
928 IF K=61 THEN 948
930 GOTO 950
948 GOSUB 1618
950 IF K-80 THEN 970
968 GOTO 988
978 HOLD#1
988 GOTO 1898
998 GOTO 1188
1000 X*X-1
```

ANDSDID RVADERS (Dragon 32) @ 13.95 each

BURD OF PREY (BASIC VICZO) 45 (5.95 pact)

```
1818 GOTO 1188
1828 X=X+1
1838 GOTO 1188
1848 CRLL GCHAR(X,Y,Z)
1050 XB-X
1868 YB=Y
1878 IF Z=35 THEN 2168
1088 DEC=1
1090 IF HOLD=1 THEN 1110
1100 Y=Y+1
1118 CALL GCHAR(X,Y,Z)
1120 IF ZC>32 THEN 1520
1138 IF HOLD(>1 THEN 1158
1140 FUEL-FUEL-1
1150 HOLD-0
1168 IF XX21 THEN 1288
1178 IF XX3 THEN 1218
```

678 YE=1

688 YE-YE+1

728 XB=XB+1

888 DEC=8

750 GOTO 790

698 CALL HCHAR(23, YE, 35)

718 CALL HCHAR(XB, YB, 32)

748 DEC-8

768 CALL GCHAR(XB, YB, ZB)

778 IF ZB=32 THEN 828 780 IF ZB=35 THEN 2160

798 CALL HCHAR(X8, Y8, 32)

818 GOTO 838 828 CALL HCHAR(XB, YB, 184)

788 IF DEC-8 THEN 838

738 IF XB(24 THEN 768

TI-99/4A PROGRAM

```
OT4, 17, 3) PLDT7, 17, 21FD8(+3)
1198 GOTO 1218
1218 IF YC32 THEN 1268
1220 FUEL=FUEL-1
1238 Y=1
1248 GOTO 1978
1258 X=X+1
1268 CALL HCHAR(X,Y,97)
1278 CALL HCHAR(X5,32,64)
1288 RRR=INT(RND#100)+1
1298 IF RRR<98 THEN 588
1308 LRZ=INT(RND#28+12)
 1310 IF LAZ>20 THEN 1480
 1328 FOR LZA=31 TO 32-LAZ STEP -1
 1338 CALL HCHAR(XS, LZR, 45)
 1348 CALL GCHAR(XS,LZR-1,ZS)
 1358 IF ZS-97 THEN 2100
 1360 NEXT LZR
 1378 FOR LZR=32 TO 32-LRZ STEP -1
 1388 CALL HCHAR( XS, LZA, 32)
  1398 NEXT LZA
 1488 CALL HCHAR(XS, 32, 32)
  1418 IF LAZ>25 THEN 1438
  1428 GOTO 1478
  1438 X8=XS-1
  1448 IF XS>2 THEN 1488
  1450 XS+3
  1468 GOTO 1508
  1478 XS=XS+1
  1480 IF XSC23 THEN 1500
   1498 XS=22
   1500 CALL HCHAR(XS, 32,64)
   1518 GOTO 588
   1528 FOR R=1 TO 14
   1530 CALL SOUND( 118+8, 1888+8, 8)
   1548 CALL SCREEN(A)
   1558 B=R+2
   1568 CALL COLOR(12,8,1)
   1578 NEXT A
    1580 CALL CLEAR
    1598 PRINT SEGS(MSGS, 12,55)
    1600 GOTO 2230
    1618 Y=Y+1
    1628 FUEL-FUEL-2
    1638 IF YC32 THEN 1718
    1648 CALL GCHAR(X,Y,Z)
    1650 IF Z<>32 THEN 1520
    1668 Y=1
    1670 X=X+1
     1688 CALL GCHAR(X,Y,Z)
    1690 IF ZC>32 THEN 1528
     1700 FUEL-FUEL-1
     1718 Y=Y+1
     1728 IF YC32 THEN 1888
     1738 CALL GCHAR(X,Y,Z)
     1748 IF Z(>32 THEN 1528
     1758 FUEL-FUEL-1
     1760 Y=1
     1778 X=X+1
     1788 CALL GCHAR(X,Y,Z)
     1790 IF Z(>32 THEN 1520
      1800 RETURN
      1818 CALL HCHAR(X,Y,97)
      1828 IF Y>25 THEN 1850
      1830 SEC=Y+5
      1848 GOTO 1868
      1850 SEC-31
      1868 FOR LAWY+1 TO SEC
      1878 CALL SOUND( 118, 118, 8)
      1888 CALL HCHAR(X,LA,45)
      1898 CALL GCHAR(X,LA+1,ZA)
      1988 IF ZR=64 THEN 2380
      1918 NEXT LA
       1920 FOR LAWY+1 TO SEC
       1938 CALL HCHAR(X,LA,32)
       1958 CALL HCHAR(X,Y,32)
       1968 RETURN
       1978 IF FUEL (=7 THEN 2828
       1980 FOR F=32 TO FUEL STEP -1
       1998 CALL HCHAR(1, F, 32)
       2000 NEXT F
        2010 GOTO 1250
        2828 FOR G=1 TO 14
        2030 CALL SCREEN(G)
        2048 CALL COLOR(12,G,1)
```

```
2858 CALL SOUND(118, 118+G, G#2)
                                                                                              You are agent 008 and here is
                    2078 PRINT "YOU RAN OUT OF FUEL "
                                                                                             roug briaking backyournment
                    2090 COTO 2230
                    2100 FOR 8=14 TO 1 STEP -1
                                                                                               Our agent inside the enemy's
                   2118 CALL SOUND( 8+18, 1888, 8)
                                                                                              ecret service complex is colured
                   2120 CALL COLOR(12, A, 1)
                   2130 NEXT A
                                                                                             STOW IL SCIED DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
                  2148 PRINT "ALIEN DEFENCE DESTROYED YOUR
                  2150 GOTO 2230
                  2160 FOR A=1 TO 14
                                                                                                      SHIP COLLEGE COLLEGE SHIP COLLEGE COLL
                  2178 CALL COLOR(12, A, 1)
                  2188 CALL SCREEN(A+2)
                 2198 CALL SOUND(188+8,3888+8,8)
                                                                                                                                   dings De-
                                                                                               As you wait he accidentally sets
                 2218 SCORE-SCORE+BONUS
                2220 PRINT "CONGRATULATIONS I YOU DID YOURTASK WELL"
                                                                                               diff the alarm which wakens the
                2258 IF SCORE+FUEL*18<=HS THEN 2278
                                                                                              the documents to you, the agent
                2260 HS=SCORE+FUEL*10
                2278 PRINT "HI-SCORE" HS
               2289 PRINT
               2298 RA=TIME/SCORE-(FUEL/18)
                                                                                               Meanwhile, the guard has
               2388 PRINT "TIME/SCORE(-FUEL BONUS)
               2328 PRINT "DO YOU WANT ANOTHER GO?"
                                                                                    RATIO=",RA .... Pe will open fire an .... RA, "=01TAR
              2340 CALL CLEAR
              2350 IF Z8 "Y" THEN 20
                                                                                                  Armed only with the curre
              2368 IF Z "N" THEN 2378 ELSE 2328
                                                                                              keys on your 48k Oric, you made.
             2378 END
             2388 SCORE-SCORE+58
             2398 CALL HCHAR(XS, 32, 32)
             2400 XS=11
            2418 CALL SOUND(5, 1888,8)
            2420 GOTO 1910
            2430 HS=0
            2448 CALL CLEAR
           2450 PRINT "INPUT YOUR NAME"
            2460 INPUT NO
           2470 CALL CLEAR
           2480 PRINT "
                                    *****************
           2498 PRINT "*****CRVERN ATTACKER *****
          2510 PRINT
          2528 PRINT
                                    *************
          2538 PRINT
          2548 PRINT "HERE IS YOUR MISSION
         2560 PRINT "USING YOUR ASTRO FIGHTER ANDYOUR OWN SKILL, YOU MUST
        2588 PRINT "BUT DOING THIS IS NOT AS EASY AS IT SOUNDS. THE NERVE CENTRECA SMA
                                                                                                                               DESTROY YOUR
        2598 PRINT "HAS LOCATED ITSELF DEEP INTOTHE HEART OF THE PLANET"
        2618 PRINT "PRESS SPACE BAR TO CONTINUE"
       2628 CALL KEY(8,K,S)
        2630 IF K=32 THEN 2650
       2640 GOTO 2620
      2650 CALL CLEAR
      2668 PRINT "YOU DESTROY IT BY BOMBARDINGTHE CAVERN WITH YOUR DEADLY BOMBS AND EL
     2688 PRINT "ONCE YOU HAVE MADE A CLEAR PATH BETHEEN YOU AND THE
     2698 PRINT "BOMB IT TO COMPLETE YOUR
                                                                                                                            NERVE CENTRE
     2710 PRINT "BUT BEWARE. WHILE YOU ARE
                                                                           MISSION"
                                                                          BOMBING YOU MAY ENCOUNTER
    2729 PRINT "OR A DEFENDING ALIEN WITH
    IT SIMPLE AND MAY HELP YOU"
                                                                                                                           A STALAGMITE
                                                                         A LONG RANGE LASER. THIS
    2748 PRINT "PRESS SPACE BAR TO CONTINUE"
                                                                                                                           ALIEN IS A B
   2758 CALL KEY(8,K,S)
   2760 IF K=32 THEN 2780
   2778 GOTO 2758
   2788 CALL CLEAR
  2790 PRINT "****HERE ARE YOUR KEYS****
  2818 PRINT "Q-UP"
 2828 PRINT "Z-DOWN"
 2830 PRINT "SPACE BAR-BOMB"
 2848 PRINT "L-LASER"
2858 PRINT "P-HOVER"
 2868 PRINT "-- ACCELERATE"
 2878 PRINT
2888 PRINT "PRESS SPACE BAR TO CONTINUE"
2898 CALL KEY(8,K,S)
2900 IF K-32 THEN 2920
2910 GOTO 2898
2928 CALL CLEAR
2930 RETURN
```

Catch the secrets and earn a bonus

You are agent 008 and here is your briefing for your next hazardous mission.

Our agent inside the enemy's secret service complex is going to throw a set of secret documents over the outside wall and you are to wait and collect them.

Unfortunately, our agent is the clumsy type.

As you wait he accidentally sets off the alarm which wakens the sleeping guard. In his haste to get the documents to you, the agent hurls them so they separate and float down on your side.

Meanwhile, the guard has started to climb a ladder and, if he sees you, he will open fire and you lose one of your three lives.

Armed only with the cursor keys on your 48K Oric, you must run up and down catching the papers in your briefcase.

Each document is worth 20 dollars on the black market, so you get bonus money as your score increases.

The rate at which the guard climbs the ladder is determined by the skill level you choose.

A high score system is incorporated - my personal best so far is 2,900 at level 1.

It was a run-of-the-mill mission - until our undercover agent slipped up. Now it's up to you and your 48K Oric to pick up the pieces. But first let Graham **Bailey brief you**



How it works

0-20 set user-defined graphics, screen, instructions, etc

99-199 main loop

200-299 guard shoots routine 300-315 bonus 200

400-415 bonus 400

500-515 bonus 600 600-999 end of game

1000-1090 set variables and

screen

1999-8999 instructions

9000-9180 user-defined graphics

Variables

HI high score LL lives left X position of spy SC score

ST skill level PVS pavement

LD\$ ladder

W15 wall (graphics) S1S, S2S spy (graphics)

G1S, G2S guard (graphics)

LG position of guard

Hints on conversion

POKE 48035,0 and POKE (#) 26A,10 can be omitted, PRINT AT can replace PLOT, INKEYS can be used instead of KEYS, PAUSE can replace WAIT. PING and EXPLODE should be replaced by whatever your computer offers.

```
0 POKE48035,0
 REM ***** TOP BECRET *****
3 REM *** BY G. BAILEY 1983 ***
5 PAPEROLINKS
10 GOSUB 9000:HI=0:LL=3
15 BOBUB 2000' INSTRUCIONS
20 GOSUB 1000 SCREEN
99 REM ***** PLAY ******
100 A=INT (RND(1)+20)
102 PLAY 1,0,0,0
105 FOR D=7T014: MUSIC1,2,D-2,2
115 IF K#=CHR#(8) THENX=X-1: IFX<8THENX=7
120 IF K#=CHR#(9) THENX=X+11 IFX>31THENX=32
125 PLOT X, 15, CHR*(9)+81*1 PLOTX, 16, CHR*(9)+82*
 130 PLOT 10+A,D+1,"/":PLOT10+A,D,"
 140 IF SCRN (10+A,D+2)=46THENSC=8C+20: MUSIC1,3,6,5: WAIT1
 0:PLAY0,0,0,
 145 IF SCRN(10+A,D+2)=46THENPLOT20,1,"Score $"+STR$(SC)
 150 NEXT: PLOT10+A, 15, " "
 155 LG=LG-ST:PLOT 3,LG-1,CHR$(9)+CHR$(6)+B1$:PLOT 3,LG,
 CHR# (9) +CHR#
 160 PLOT3, LG+1, CHR$ (3) +CHR$ (9) +LD$
  (6)+G2$
 165 IF SC>600 AND SC<800 THEN GOSUB300
  170 IF SC>1000AND SC<1400THEN GOSUB400
  175 IF SC>2000AND SC<2600THEN GOSUB500
  180 IF SCRN(5,15)=38 THEN 200
  190 GOTO 100
  199 END
  200 PLOT6, 15, 48: PLOT7, 15, 49
  210 FOR T=1TO3: SHOOT: WAIT 100: NEXT
  220 PLOTX, 15," ":PLOTX+1, 16,"
                                        ". EXPLODE
  225 LL=LL-1: WAIT300
  230 IF LL=0 THEN GOTO 600
  235 GOTO 20
  299 END
```

```
300 PLOT15, 10, CHR$(B) + "BONUS $200" : PLAY0, 0,0,0
 310 FORT-SCTOSC+200: PLOT27, 1, STR#(T) : NEXT
 315 SC=SC+200: PLOT15, 10,"
  400 PLOT15, 10, CHR*(8) + "BONUS $400" : PLAY0, 0, 0, 0
 410 FORT-SCTOSC+400: PLOT27, 1, STR# (T) : NEXT
 415 SC-SC+400: PLOT15, 10,"
 500 PLOT15, 10, CHR$(8) + "BONUS $600" : PLAY0, 0,0
 518 FORT-SCTOSC+600: PLOT27, 1, STR# (T) : NEXT
 515 SC=SC+600: PLOT15, 10,"
 600 REM **** END ****
 610 FORT=11T012: PLOT14, T, CHR$(8)+CHR$(5)+CHR$(10)+"GAME
 620 WAIT 300: PRINTCHR# (12)
 630 IF SC>HI THEN PRINT,,, "NEW HIGH !"
 640 IF SC>HI THEN HI=SC:PRINT:PRINT, , , , SC
645 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT: , , "YOU" SCORE : "; SC
650 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT. . . "AGAIN (Y/N) ?"
660 REPEAT: KS=KEYS: UNTILKS="Y"ORKS="N"
670 IF K#="Y"THENSC=0:LL=3:GOT02100
680 END
999 END
1000 REM ***** SCREEN ******
1005 PRINTCHR$ (12) : POKE#26A, 10: LG=25: X=23
1010 PV$="! - !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
1015 W1*="#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X#X":01*="&'";
```

ORIC PROGRAM

```
1020 PLOT0, 17, CHR$(9)+CHR$(2)+PV$: FORT=14T026: PLOT4, T, C
HR# (9) +LD# | N
1025 PLOT4, 17, 3: PLOT7, 17, 2: FORT=3T058TEP2: PLOT0, T, CHR#(
9) +CHR$(1)+W
1$: NEXT
1030 FORT=4T06STEP2:PLOT0,T,CHR$(9)+CHR$(1)+W2$:NEXT
1035 PLOTX, 15, CHR$(9)+81$: PLOTX, 16, CHR$(9)+82$
1038 FORT=15T016:PLOT1,T,9:NEXT
1040 PLOT 3,LG-1,CHR$(9)+CHR$(6)+G1$:PLOT 3,LG,CHR$(9)+
1045 PLOT10,4,CHR*(8)+CHR*(7)+"SECRET SERVICE":PLOT26,4
CHR$ (6) +62$
 ,CHR$ (9) +CHR
 1050 PLOT20,1, "Score $"+STR$(SC):PLOT2,1, "Hi-score $"+S
 TR#(HI)+CHR#
 (3)
 1055 IF LL=1 THEN 1065
 1058 A=0: FORT=1TOLL-1
 1060 A=A+6:PLOT15+A,24,CHR$(9)+81$:PLUT15+A,25,CHR$(9)+
 82#INEXT
 1070 FORT=11T012:PLOT15,T,CHR$(8)+CHR$(10)+CHR$(5)+"Rea
                                                "INEXT
 1075 WAIT300: FORT=11T012: PLOT15, T,"
 1080 FORT=7T014: PLOTO, T, 9: NEXT
 1085 PLOTE, 0,"
 1090 RETURN
 1999 REM ***** INSTRUCIONS ******
 2000 PRINTCHR# (12) | FORT=1T02| PLOT12, T, CHR# (10) +"TOP SEC
 RET": NEXT
 2005 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT: PLOTO, 4, 7: PLOTO, 1, 6: PLOTO, 2, 4
 2010 Ms="Welcome Agent 008."
 2015 FORT=1TOLEN (M$) : A$=MID$ (M$, T, 1)
 2020 PRINTA*; : WAIT 30: PLAY0, 1, 1, 20: NEXT: PLAY0, 0, 0, 0: PRI
  2022 POKE#26A, 10: WAIT100
 2025 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT" Your mission is to catch the fa
  2030 PRINT: PRINT "documents in your briefcase."
  2035~PRINT: PRINT" Each document is worth $20 on the "
```

```
2040 PRINT: PRINT"black market."
 2045 PRINT: PRINT" As the amount of documents you have"
 2050 PRINT: PRINT"increases, you will be rewarded with "
 2055 PRINT: PRINT"bonus money."
 2060 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT, "Press (SPACE) for more details"
 2065 PLOT1,22,CHR*(12)+CHR*(2)
 2070 REPEAT: UNTILKEY " ": CLS
 2075 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT" Unfortunately setting off the a
 larm"
 2080 PRINT: PRINT awakens the guard who sets off up"
 2085 PRINT: PRINT"the ladder after you."
 2090 PRINT: PRINT" When he sees you he shoots and kills"
 IPRINT: PRINT
 "you."
 2100 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT: INPUT" Skill level (1-10) "; ST
 2105 IF ST>10THENST=10
 2108 IF ST<1THENST=1
 2110 ST=ST/10
2120 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT, "Press (SPACE) to play "
2130 PLOT1, 17, CHR$ (12) +CHR$ (6) : REPEAT: UNTILKEY$=" "
2135 GOTO 20
8999 END
9000 FORT=#B800+ (8+33) TOT+135: READD: POKET, D: NEXT
9010 DATA 0,63,63,63,63,63,63
9020 DATA 32,32,63,32,32,32,63,32
9030 DATA 1,1,63,1,1,1,63,1
9040 DATA 63,63,63,63,63,63,0,0
9050 DATA 62,62,62,62,62,62,0,0
9060 DATA 3,47,35,49,55,55,63,31
9070 DATA 48,61,49,35,59,59,63,62
9080 DATA 7,7,15,14,14,14,62,62
9090 DATA 56,56,60,28,28,28,31,31
9100 DATA 0,0,28,18,17,63,33,32
9110 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,63,63
9120 DATA 32,32,32,32,63,12,12,15
9130 DATA 16,8,8,12,60,0,0,0
9140 DATA 63,51,51,63,30,0,0,0
9150 DATA 63,33,41,33,41,37,33,63
9160 DATA 48,60,48,32,48,48,63,63
9170 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,63,60
9180 RETURN
```

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The cassette and booklet arrive in a smart, rigid plastic wallet with space for a second cassette. Unfortunately, all that glisters is not gold.

The demonstration program loaded easily, but is followed by the user program. This would make the latter difficult to locate. The reverse side of the cassette, however, is left blank!

Some instructions are given on-screen, others being found in the booklet. To gain access to the program a code is entered. This provides little security as an incorrect input does not make the program crash.

An account can be displayed, page by page, with data, reference, and gross and net amounts shown. The file can be updated and entries can be corrected or deleted.

Whole accounts can be deleted, but alterations to ledger sales and VAT accounts would have to be made manually.

The program will also list debtors, indicating those whose credit limit has been reached, give a sales summary, and can be used for monthly ledger accounting. There is a hard copy option on all displays.

The menu is therefore quite extensive, but so is the size of the program - over 16K! Although up to 253 entries per account and

Let your micro take office

Our reviewers try out programs to turn your micro into an office worker

283 accounts are offered, my machine would only accept four accounts of the maximum number of entries, or 283 accounts of only two entries each. The booklet hints at this - "... maintain more than one file."

All communication with the program is by INPUT statements. This becomes a little tiresome after a while, especially with single character entries.

The program allows the user to run a sales ledger accounting system, but users are advised to consult their accountant to ensure sufficient controls exist.

As both program and data are SAVEd - a pity with the Spectrum's data SAVE facility - the

time to save one file and load in the next (including verify) is in excess of 14 minutes!

These last two factors, coupled with the need to define the size of the file at the beginning, makes this package not particularly attractive - especially at £14.95.

nstructions	60%
ase of use	45%
lisplay	80%
alue for money	30%
A PARK WINE KIND	



Home Accounts **32K BBC £9.95**

Diamondsoft, Bridge Buildings, 11a Ladybridge Road, Cheadle Hulme

Home Accounts loaded easily, but I had to come back four times and spend 31/2 hours before 1 began to understand it.

A program of this type needs a very comprehensive instruction sheet and, if possible, a demonstration program. Home Accounts has neither.

It was difficult to obtain feedback about the information I was feeding into the program, and this did not give me any confidence that it would be processed correctly.

It would be a long time before I would trust this program, or myself, enough to rely upon it to look after my accounts.

The whole essence of computer utilities is to increase speed and accuracy, but with a four minute loading time and difficulty in checking entries, one would only use this program as an intellectual exercise.

However, it is clever in that it can manipulate any type of entry you could want, including paid and unpaid bills, regular payments, and payment of unpaid

It will also display updated reports on balance, transactions, bills waiting payment, etc. All data can be saved, loaded and updated.

But the instructions and program could do to be much more user friendly. J.D.

instructions	20%
ease of use	30%
display	90%
value for money	50%

Timescript/ **Speedwriter** Dragon 32 €7.95

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word processor.

defined mnemonics to aid entry but may be worth looking at. R.E. speed - for example, typing ab produces the word "about" and inst zc produces "they can". About east 636 double letter abbreviations dis-

can be used. The program is supplied with a very detailed, but easily understood booklet. It loaded in two

sections, the first being a BASIC master program which then loads the vocabulary data - either the one supplied or one you have defined yourself.

A menu is displayed with options to define or list Dragon Data, Kenfig Industrial mnemonies, set printer/tape,

Without a printer this program Timescript is a program designed is useless but, if you are prepared to make it easy to type and print to learn a complete language of text such as business letters. It has two-letter abbreviations and frefacilities for formatting and quently need to print standardediting and is similar to a simple ised text, this could be a very However, the program uses a it is a specialist utility program it series of predefined or user will appeal to a limited market,

od.	90%
tructions	52%
eofuse	51%
play	63%
lue for money	



Flexifile 32K BBC £9.95

Diamondsoft, Bridge Buildings, 11a Ladybridge Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle SK8 5LL

The storage and manipulation of vast quantities of data has got to be one of the most vital and useful tasks that a computer can undertake on behalf of us mere mortals. This program is meant to make such things easy and enjoyable and it is certainly very simple to

This is ensured by the use of menus from which you select the function you require. If this is illoğical - eg, you select print when no file is present - then the program simply returns you to the master menu.

The cassette inlay cards provide the instructions and they are fairly informative for new users. There is precious little in terms of

examples, however, and there is no specimen database.

There is no date checking algorithm - you can type in any string of characters and it is accepted as a date (what use the date is to the program I haven't yet worked out!)

You expect a compromise between power of program and spare memory in all databases: in this example there is a second manipulation program which means extra loading time.

The publishers do offer an advice service, upon payment of a £5 fee.

Final point to note is that the BBC doesn't have the memory for vast databases, so expect to have to keep more than one file. D.C.

instructions	80%
ease of use	85%
display	80%
value for money	70%



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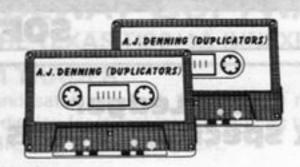
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On the front is a red and green bug below the words "Byte-me." And on the back is the phrase: "I've been bytten!"

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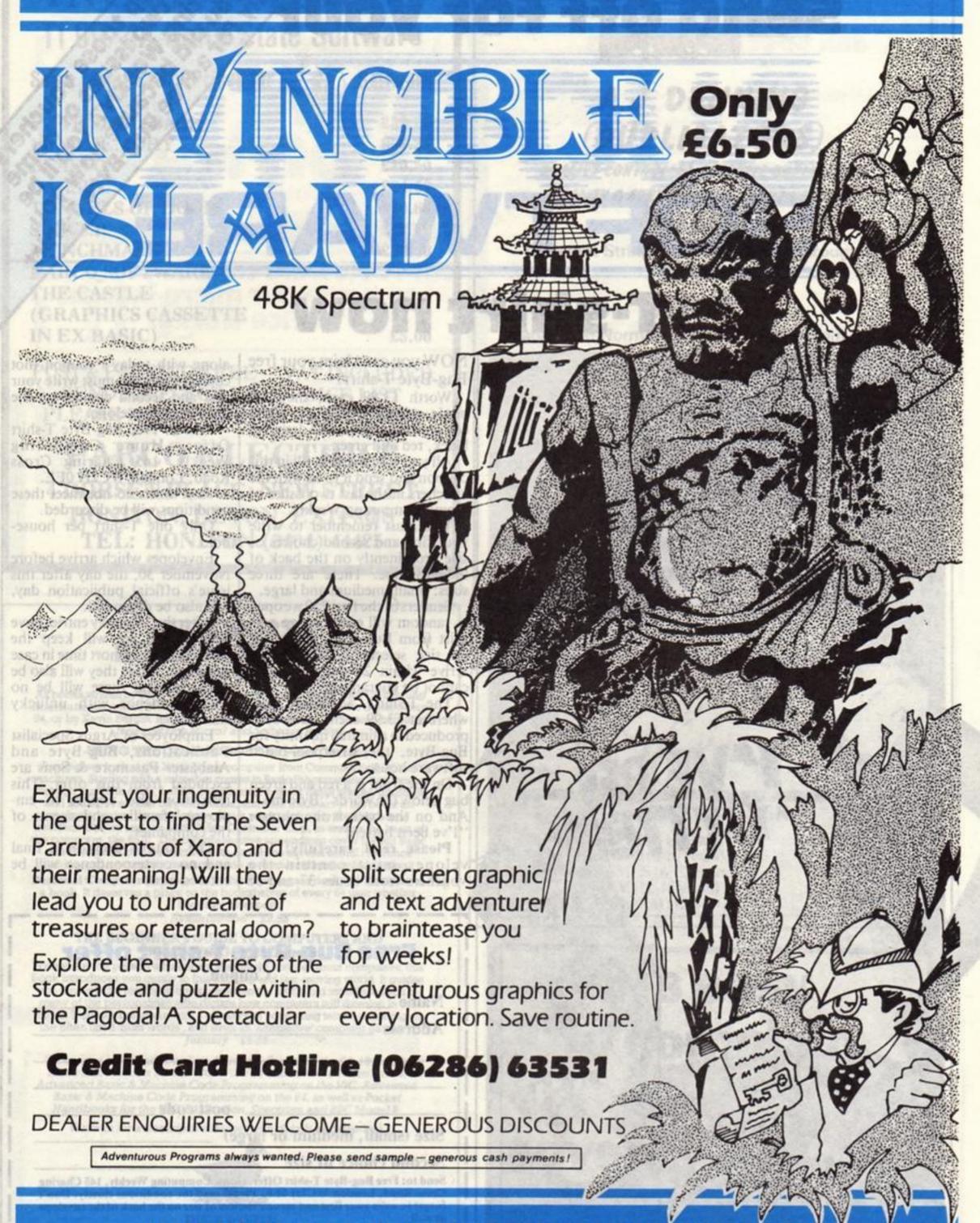
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LETTERS

Spectadraw update

Many thanks for taking the trouble to review Spectadraw 2 in issue 37 of HCW.

There are always problems involved with preproduction copies, and the copy of Spectadraw 2 which we supplied before the beginning of the current football season was no

exception.

The bug, correctly identified by your reviewer, was eliminated at the start of the season. Sales of Spectadraw in the UK and 10 other countries (we are still trying to establish what they do with the program in Iceland!) are such that we are convinced the program is bug free.

The other unfortunate spin off from your reviewer examining a pre-season copy of the program was that he had to spend three hours inputting the results of matches played up to

date.

We dispatch copies of Spectadraw 2 on Monday and Thursday each week and each copy has the database updated to include the matches played up to and including the night before dispatch.

The program is therefore ready to use upon receipt.

We are sure that you will want to redress the balance by publishing our comments in your letters page!

B. S. McAlley, Spectadraw, Chinnor, Oxford

Double trouble

How my heart goes out to B. E. Smith who, by owning a ZX81, is made to feel like a freak. This is something that has always bugged me and it's good to learn that Home Computing Weekly has sympathy.

I notice that VIC-20 owners are having to go through the same thing now that the 64 is taking over.

I am not afraid to admit, even if it does make me a social outcast, that I own a ZX81 and a VIC (double trouble).

To me, those who look down on the little black box just do not have the imagination to use it to its full potential.

We few will still be computing when the others have bored themselves to death shooting down space ships and fleeing from monsters ... it's enough to make a computer turn in its chips . . . what a waste.

Well, after a moan and groan, thank you HCW for giving both the 81 and the VIC a good write up.

Send your letter to Letters, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OEE. Don't forget to name your computer — the best letter could win £5-worth of software. Got a problem with your micro? We'll soon be starting a queries page, so send your technical questions to Queries at the above address



To close, do you, or any of your readers know of a POKE for the ZX81 that will give repeat keys?

Ian Boulton, Kingswood, Bristol

Beating those joystick problems

I was interested in R. C. Sanderson's CALL JOYST subroutine for the TI-99/4A (HCW 35) as I too had initial problems.

I would advise purchase of the Extended BASIC module, not only for the sprite graphics, but for the ease of joystick and movement programming this module affords.

In the same issue, Paul Hopkins asked if his score on Parsec was a record. Well, I have bad new for him, as I have beaten this score on two separate occasions, the latter being 1,569,800, in a marathon game lasting over five hours. I still have the blister marks.

Parsec is a marvellous game, but I was a little disappointed with the non-appearance of the seventh digit upon reaching the magic million.

I take your magazine every week and have nothing but praise for the way you cater for us 99ers.

P.S. Has anybody out there cracked the coloured button code on Scott Mission Adams Impossible? If you have, please write in with a clue before my TV screen gets a size seven Doc Marten.

Dennis Kemp, Mile Cross, Norwich

Cleverproof solution?

Many thanks to all who have pointed out that my keepyour-secret program (HCW 31) is not foolproof (or rather is not "cleverproof''!) I was aware (honest!) of the CAPS 6 trick but I wondered if there was a solution.

Sure enough, Alan Gee (HCW 37) found one, for which I am very grateful. It is spectacular when you try it

Andrew Turek, London NW11

Chess **VICtory**

I thought you may be interested in a chess game which several friends and I recently organised. Not as you might expect between two people, or even a person versus a computer, but in fact one computer against another.

The actual opponent was the Sargon II cartridge on the VIC-20 and Psion Chess

on the ZX81.

The procedure was as follows. In the first game the ZX81 played white, and the VIC-20 black. Therefore when the ZX81 played a move, the VIC would expect one from an opponent.

The move played by the ZX81 was then typed into the VIC. Then the VIC played its move, which was typed into the ZX81. The game was played in this manner until one computer claimed check mate.

We played two games, each computer taking its turn at playing white. The outcome was the VIC-20 won both games.

We hope in the future to play a game between the VIC-20 and the Spectrum, but the date has not yet been arranged.

Paul Brown, Buckley, Clwyd

Am I the **Champion?**

Last weekend I finally made it. After hours and hours, nearly an over-heated computer and very sore fingers, I completed the last screen of the super-fast, highly addictive Laser Snaker game by Poppy Soft for the 48K Spectrum.

Am I the only one yet to do this, which means I'll win the £100 prize? I'm a girl, so I challenge all male computer addicts to see if they're good enough to get to the last maze on Laser Snaker (I'm not saying a word about what happens!) and beat my high score of 29,650.

Must be off now - Laser Snaker has just finished loading on my computer. I'm now attempting it on speed 2 and difficulty level 1 - impossible, or is it?

Jackie Thomas, Leicester

Moving into machine code? Here's help

Many programmers of home computers move onto machine code once they have acquired a good understanding of BASIC.

This trend seems to be motivated by speed; machine code programs can be more than a hundred times faster than their BASIC equivalents. But while programs are faster, programming can take very much longer.

In machine code you are supplying the CPU with a succession of simple commands in the form of numbers.

Often quite a few machine code commands are required to do the equivalent of one or two lines of BASIC. And while the list of numbers means a lot to the CPU, they usually mean little to the human operator.

To help machine language programmers, an intermediate language was devised called assembly language. This is a translations of those numbers into a code more readily understood by man.

The process of converting machine code to assembly language is called disassembly, and this article presents a program for carrying out this process on the Oric-1.

If you know little about 6502 machine language programming, then I suggest you read one of the many good text books on the subject. If you already know a little, and want to learn more, disassembling other people's machine code routines can be an excellent way of helping your learn, and my disassembler program should help.

The menu-driven program (see figures 1 and 2) has several features.

It presents a disassembled listing of machine code on your TV screen or on the printer. If you are writing machine code, then the program includes a hex loader to enter machine code through the keyboard, edited as required, and finally SAVEd on tape.

When you RUN the program, a title page is presented, followed by a short pause while various arrays are filled. The main menu, shown in figure 1, will appear. Two of the three main options will each give secondary menus, as shown in figure 2.

The SAVE/LOAD machine code option in the main menu gives further selections.

Unfortunately, the first of these (load machine code from

Whether you're already writing some machine code or just learning, David Nowotnik's disassembler will make life easier. It's for the 6502 processor in the 48K Oric-1

tape) will not work. A ROMerror (one of many in the Oric) prevents CLOAD from working within a program. I've retained the option in the menu to present an apologetic message on the screen to serve as a reminder of Oric's failing.

If you wish to load machine code from tape, stop the program (option 4 in the main menu), and use CLOAD as a direct command to load the machine code, followed by RUN.

You can, however, SAVE machine code from within a program, and option 2 allows you to do this. After selection of this option, you will be asked for a file name, and the start and end addresses. Once the block of bytes have been saved, the SAVE/LOAD menu will reappear.

Option 3 of the SAVE/LOAD menu allows you to enter your own machine code routine with a hex loader. First, you have to set the start address for your routine.

If you have a short routine, it can be stored in the safe area starting at address hex 400, otherwise it should go above HIMEM, which was set to hex 8000 by the program.

Enter your machine code as hexadecimal numbers. You should enter 'S' to stop; if you make a mistake, erase the error by pressing the delete key, and continue entering the numbers.

As you enter the numbers they will automatically be arranged on the screen in a hex dump array. Don't worry if you make a mistake and fail to spot it; you can use the edit routine to make any corrections.

Selection 2 from the main menu allows you to disassemble any routine you have placed in RAM, or any in-built routine in ROM. You start by specifying the start address, and whether you wish the output to be directed to the screen or printer.

Your machine code routine is disassembled one screenful at a time. On the screen (or printer) will be given the opcode address,

the opcode mnemonic, the mode, the value of any operand, and the byte values of the entire machine code instruction.

While the opcode mnemonics are standard, the symbols for the mode are not. The system for display of modes is shown in figure 3. The abbreviations shown are directly attached to the three letter mnemonic of the opcode.

I find this system easier to understand than the standard method, hence my reason for using it in this program.

- 1 Save/Load machine code
- 2 Disassemble machine code
- 3 Edit machine code 4 Stop

4 Stop

Figure 1 - main menu

SAVE/LOAD MACHINE CODE

- 1 Load machine code from tape
- 2 Save machine code on tape
- 3 Use hex loader
- 4 Return to main menu

EDIT MACHINE CODE

- 1 Alter a byte value
- 2 Move a block of bytes
- 3 Return to main menu

Figure 2 - secondary menus

Once the screen is filled with a disassembled listing, pressing any key will give you the next 'page'. To stop the process, press 'S' at any time.

Editing of machine code in RAM is possible using the third option in the main menu. You may alter the value of a single byte, or move a block of bytes. Some caution has to be used with this option not to accidentally alter the BASIC program, variables, or values in the first three pages of RAM.

If you want a short machine code routine to try out with this program, enter the listing in figure 4 using the hex loader. Use 400 hex as the start address, and use CALL #400 as a direct command to find out what it does. The first 12 bytes are machine code, the rest is DATA.

Mode	Abbreviation
Implied	none
Accumulator	A
Absolute	none
Zero page	Z
Immediate	IM
Absolute,X	X
Absolute, Y	Y
Zero page,X	ZX
Zero page,Y	ZY
(Indirect, X)	IX
(Indirect), Y	IY
Relative	none

Figure 3 – abbreviations for modes

A2 20 BD OB 04 9D 84 BB CADO F7 60 11 52 65 6D 65 6D 62 65 72 20 74 6F 20 67 65 74 20 48 43 57 20 6E 65 78 74 20 77 65 65 6B 20 10

Figure 4 - an example machine code routine to try

10	REM	6502 DISASSEMBLER
20	REM	David Nowotnik
30	REM	want available in the action
40	REM	the same and particular
50	REM	
60	REM	48K version
70	HIME	1#7FFF: TEXT: PAPERO: INK7: PRINTCHR\$
(1)	7)	

ORIC PROGRAM

```
80 DIMOC$(256), OP(256), SC$(400)
90 E$=" "+CHR$(27)
105 POKE618, 2: IFPEEK (524) (128THENPRINTCH
R$(20);
110 HM$=CHR$(30):D$=CHR$(10):U$=CHR$(11)
:LT$=CHR$(8)
130 RT$="":FORI=1T08:RT$=RT$+CHR$(9):NEX
T:DH$=CHR$(4)
140 GOSUB200:PRINTHM$D$D$D$D$D$RT$RT$DH$
E$"J6502"DH$
150 PRINTD$D$D$RT$"HEX LOADER/DISASSEMBL
ER"
160 PRINTD$D$D$RT$" FOR THE 48K ORIC 1"
170 PRINTD$D$D$RT$" 1983, D.
Nowotnik"
190 GOTO800
200 CLS:PRINT:PRINTLS$
210 FORI=1TO20:PRINT" #";SPC(34);"#"
220 NEXTI:PRINTLS$
230 RETURN
250 HA$=HEX$(W):HA$="0000"+HA$:HA$=RIGHT
$(HA$,4)
260 W$=STR$(W):W$=" "+W$:W$=RIGHT$(W
$,7):W$=HA$+W$
270 U$=HEX$(T): IFLEFT$(U$,1)="#"THENU$=R
IGHT$(U$, LEN(U$)-1⊠
280 U$=RIGHT$("00"+U$,2)
290 K$=" "+K$+" ":K$=LEFT$(K
$,8) :RETURN
300 B=PEEK(W+1):G$=HEX$(B):IFB>16THENU$=
U$+RIGHT$(G$,2):RETURN
305 U$=U$+"0"+RIGHT$(G$,1):RETURN
310 NM$=RIGHT$(" "+STR$(PEEK(
W+1)),10)+" ":RETURN
320 PRINTD$" For a printer listing press
1p1"
330 PRINTD$" else press any other key"
340 GETP$:RETURN
350 PRINTD$D$"Enter file name ";: INPUTNF
360 RETURN
370 PRINTD$"Enter start address ";:INPUT
SA a trate to see to retolace
380 PRINTD$"Enter end address ";:INPUTEA
390 RETURN
400 PRINTD$D$" Start tape, press a key,
then walt" to reamen tains something sect
410 GETZ$:WAIT600:RETURN
420 HI=ASC(LEFT$(S$,1))-48:IFLEFT$(S$,1)
>"9"THENHI=HI-7 ___ SRBEW3HTAW-A231 SEE
430 LO=ASC(RIGHT$(S$,1))-48:IFRIGHT$(S$,
1)>"9"THENLO=LO-7
440 HI=HI*16:RETURN
700 TEXT:PAPER0:INK7:CLS
800 REM INITIALISE
810 FORI=1T0256
```

```
820 READOC$(1):IFOC$(1)="X"THEN840
 840 NEXTI
 850 GOSUB200
 860 PRINTHM$D$D$D$D$RT$RT$"MENU"
 870 PRINTD$D$D$RT$"1. Save/load machine
 code" SBEIRENT ASSECHAFERKEETA DES
 880 PRINTD$D$RT$"2. Disassemble Machine
 GOOD THE PRINTER OF THE PRINTERS AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE
 885 PRINTD$D$RT$"3. Edit machine code"
 890 PRINTD$D$RT$"4. Stop"
 895 PRINTD$D$RT$" *** Select 1 to 4 ***"
 900 GET2$:2=UAL(2$):IF2<10R2>4THEN900
 910 PRINTU$RT$" ";Z;" Selected
920 WAIT200
940 IFZ=4THENCLS:STOP
960 ONZGOSUB1000, 2000, 3000
 970 GOT0850
 1000 REM Load machine code routine
1010 GOSUB200:PRINTHM$D$D$D$RT$" SAUE /
LOAD MACHINE CODE"
1020 PRINTD$RT$" Options"
1030 PRINTD$D$D$RT$"1. Load machine code
from tape "GIMISHMENTEREES CHOOLS WE THEN
 1032 PRINTD$RT$"2. Save machine code on
tape"
1036 PRINTD$RT$"3. Use the hex loader"
1040 PRINTD$RT$"4. Return to the main me
nu"
1050 PRINTD$D$D$RT$" *** Select 1 to 4
*** " obecock searbbA STMIS9: 8=14233 -988
 1060 GETU$: U=UAL(U$): IFU<10RU>4THEN1060
 1070 PRINTU$RT$" ";U;" selected
 1080 WAIT200: IFU=4THENRETURN
1090 CLS:ONUGOSUB1100,1300,1500:GOTO1000
 1100 CLS:PRINTD$RT$"Load machine code fr
                           1090 IFKSETHEN2140
 om tape"
1110 PRINTD$D$D$D$D$" Due to ROM fault
 , cannot do."
                                                     Sorry !":
 1120 PRINTD$D$"
WAIT1000:RETURN
 1130 CLOADNF$, A, E
1140 RETURN SOCIAL SOCI
 1300 CLS:PRINTD$RT$"Save machine code on
 tape"
 1310 GOSUB350:GOSUB370:GOSUB400
 1320 CSAUENF$, A(SA), E(EA)
1330 RETURN
1500 CLS:PRINTD$RT$"Hex loader"
 1510 PRINTD$D$"Enter the start address "
 :: INPUTSA:S1=SA
1520 PRINTD$D$"Enter machine code as hex
  digit pairs,";
1530 PRINT" and 'S' to stop and return to
 the mainmenu." BBSSCTDB:CD. #9L+"81
1540 PRINT
```

ORIC PROGRAM

```
1550 Z$=RIGHT$("0000"+HEX$(SA),4)
1560 PRINTES;" ";:MN=0
1570 S$="":FORI=1TO2
1580 GET2$: IF2$="S"THENWAIT400:RETURN
1585 IFASC(2$)=127THENGOSUB1700:GOTO1580
1590 IF2$ ("0"OR2$) "F"THEN1580
1600 IF2$)"9"AND2$("A"THEN1580
1610 PRINTZ$;:S$=S$+Z$:NEXTI
1620 PRINT" ";:GOSUB420:POKESA, HI+LO
1630 SA=SA+1:MN=MN+1:IFMN(8THEN1570
1640 GOTO1540
1700 IFI=2THENI=I-1:S$="":PRINTLT$" "LT$
: RETURN
1710 IFMN=0THEN1725
1720 PRINTLT$LT$LT$LT$" "LT$LT$;:MN=MN-
1:SA=SA-1:RETURN
1725 IFSA=S1THENRETURN
1730 PRINT:PRINTU$U$LT$LT$" "LT$LT$;
1040 SA=SA-1:MN=7:RETURN
2000 REM Disassemble routine
2010 CLS:PRINTD$RT$" 6502 DISASSEMBLE R
OUTINE" SOOD BATROOM ORD
2020 PRINTD$: INPUT" Enter the start add
ress ";Wash band The TRADEGET MING AND
2030 IFW<00RW>65535THENPRINTD$D$" Addre
ss out of range":WAIT400:GO
T02000
2040 IFW(>INT(W)THENPRINTD$D$" Integer
values only:WAIT400:GOTO20
00
2045 GOSUB320
2050 CLS:L1=0:PRINT" Address
                                                   Opcode Op
erand Byte value8"
2060 PRINT: IFP$="P"THENLPRINT" Addre
ss Opcode
 2070 T=PEEK(W):K$=OC$(T+1):K=OP(T+1)
2080 GOSUB250
2090 JFK>0THEN2140
2100 PRINTW$;" Invalid Opcode ";U$
2110 IFP$="P"THENLPRINTW$; TAB(10);" Inva
lid Operand ;U$
2120 W=W+1:L1=L1+1:IFL1>21THEN2500
2130 GOTO2070
2140 ONKGOTO2150,2200,2300
2150 PRINTW$K$" "U$
2160 IFP$="P"THENLPRINTW$K$"
"US TORREST A TORREST SEE SUBSECTION OF SEE SUBS
2200 MK=0:GOSUB300:FORX=16T0240STEP32
2210 IFX<>T1HEN2250
2220 MK=1:JR=PEEK(W+1)+2:IFJR>129THEN224
O THE REAL OF THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE O
2230 JR$=HEX$(W+JR):JR$=RIGHT$("0000"+JR
                          Water a speciment to the
$,4):GOTO2280
2240 JR$=HEX$(W-(256-JR)):JR$=RIGHT$("00
00"+JR$,4):GOTO2280
2250 NEXTX:GOSUB310
```

```
2260 IFP$="P"THENLPRINTW$K$NM$U$
    2270 PRINTW$K$NM$U$:W=W+2:L1=L1+1:IFL1>2
    1THEN2500ELSEGOT02070
    2280 NM$=" to "+JR$+" ":GOTO2260
    2300 NM$=RIGHT$(" "+STR$(DEEK(W+1))
    ,10)+"
    2310 GOSUB300:W=W+1:GOSUB300:W=W-1
   2320 IFP$="P"THENLPRINTW$K$NM$U$
   2330 PRINTW$K$NM$U$
   2340 W=W+3:L1=L1+1:IFL1>23THEN2500ELSEGO
   T02070
   2500 IFKEY$="S"THENWAIT200:RETURN
   2510 IFP$="P"THEN2050
   2520 GET2$: IF2$ <> "S" THEN2050
   2530 RETURN
   3000 GOSUB200:PRINTHM$D$D$D$RT$" Edi
   t Machine Code"
   3010 PRINTD$D$D$RT$"1. Alter a byte va
   lue" STREET THE STREET STREET THE STREET STREET
   3020 PRINTD$RT$"2. Move a blook of byt
   3030 PRINTD$RT$"3. Return to the main
   menu." BEHLERHER BOSS TERRE CUITAX HE SAH
   3040 PRINTD$D$D$D$D$D$RT$"
                                                                                                                          Select 1,
  2, or 3"
   3050 GET2$: 2=UAL(2$): IF2<10R2>3THEN3050
   3060 IFZ=3THENRETURN
   3070 IFZ=2THEN3500
   3080 CLS:PRINID$RT$" Alter a byte
    value"
  3090 PRINTD$D$" Input byte address ";:
   INPUTBA OF COME CASES AND ASSESSED TO MAKE A SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE AND MARKET SERVICE SE
  3100 PRINTD$D$" Present value = ";PEEK(
   BA) A SUSTAIN A PROCESS OF THE SHALL BY A SUSTAIN BY A SU
  3110 PRINTD$D$" Enter new value ";: INPU
  TNU
  3120 IFNU (00RNU) 2550RNU (> INT (NU) THEN 3110
    3130 POKEBA, NU
  3140 PRINTD$D$D$RT$"Any more (Y/N)"
  3150 GET2$: IF2$="Y"THEN3080
 3160 1F2$="N"THEN3000
 3170 GOTO3150
  3500 CLS:PRINTD$RT$"Move a block of byte
  STERRILE Color by and address Tiller S.
 3510 PRINTD$D$D$"Enter present start add
 ress ";: INPUTSA Day bas and a second second
  3520 PRINTD$D$"Enter new start address "
 488 PRINTUSDEDS* Start tage! PTE BATURALS;
 3530 PRINTD$D$"Enter number of bytes ";:
 INPUTBY MAUTER SOURCE TURN YET 38 - 614
 3540 PRINTD$D$RT$" Please wait"
  3550 IFSA=NATHEN3000
  3560 IFSA>NATHEN3700 33 3 THE LANGER OF SEA
  3580 FORI=SA+BY-1TOSASTEP-1
  3590 POKENA, PEEK(I): NA=NA-1
 3600 NEXT1:GOTO3000 3214 341 341 341 358
3700 FOR1=SATOSA+BY-1 0850Y1=1907-818
```

ORIC PROGRAM

3710 POKENA, PEEK(1):NA=NA+1 3720 NEXTI:GOTO3000 5000 DATABRK, 1, ORAIX, 2, X, X, X, ORAZ, 2 5010 DATAASLZ, 2, X, PHP, 1, ORAIM, 2 5020 DATAASLA, 1, X, X, ORA, 3, ASL, 3, X 5030 DATABPL, 2, ORAIY, 2, X, X, X, ORAZX, 2 5040 DATAASLZX, 2, X, CLC, 1, ORAY, 3, X, X, X 5050 DATAORAX, 3, ASLX, 3, X, JSR, 3, ANDIX, 2 5060 DATAX, X, BITZ, 2, ANDZ, 2, ROLZ, 2, X 5070 DATAPLP, 1, ANDIM, 2, ROLA, 1, X, BIT, 3 5080 DATAAND, 3, ROL, 3, X, BMI, 2, ANDIY, 2 5090 DATAX, X, X, ANDZX, 2, ROLZX, 2, X, SEC, 1 5100 DATAANDY, 3, X, X, X, ANDX, 3, ROLX, 3, X 5110 DATARTI, 1, EORIX, 2, X, X, X, EOR2, 2 5120 DATALSRE, 2, X, PHA, 1, EORIM, 2, LSRA, 1 5130 DATAX, JMP, 3, EOR, 3, LSR, 3, X, BUC, 2 5140 DATAEORIY, 2, X, X, EORZX, 2, LSRZX, 2 5150 DATAX, CLI, 1, EORY, 3, X, X, X, EORX, 3 5160 DATALSRX, 3, X, RTS, 1, ADCIX, 2, X, X, X 5170 DATAADCZ, 2, RORZ, 2, X, PLA, 1, ADCIM, 2 5180 DATARORA, 1, X, JMPI, 3, ADC, 3, ROR, 3 5190 DATAX, BUS, 2, ADCIY, 2, X, X, X, ADCZX, 2 5200 DATARORZX, 2, X, SEI, 1, ADCY, 3, X, X, X 5210 DATAADCX, 3, RORX, 3, X, X, STAIX, 2 5220 DATAX, X, STYE, 2, STAE, 2, STXE, 2, X 5230 DATADEY, 1, X, TXA, 1, X, STY, 3, STA, 3

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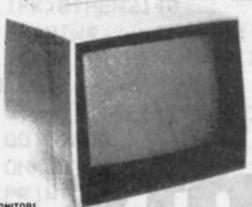
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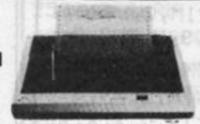


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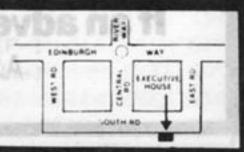
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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Bewitched VIC-20 £5.50

Imagine Software, Imagine House, 5 Sir Thomas Street, Liverpool

Enter Imagine's latest offering for the VIC-20. New in name, but old in concept. In fact, it doesn't need much imagination to see its resemblance to a cerain P** Man

In essence you are dumped in a huge maze, which makes full use of the VIC's expanded screen capabilities.

Movement from one area of the maze to the next is prevented by coloured doors.

In order to open any given door, you must pass you key shaped man through the key shape of the colour corresponding to the door.

Confusing, isn't it? It's even worse on a black and white TV.

In order to stop you a horde of ghosts (sounds familiar) rush around trying to slice you up. Naturally, they get nastier as you progress.

Graphically, the game is average. Apart from the use of the expanded screen, the programmer doesn't use the VIC's capabilities to any real extent. You have a music option, but if you take my advice you won't use it (you can't switch off during the game).

If you like repetitive games with fast action, you'll like this. I found it fun initially, but soon A.W. became bored.

instructions	80%
playability	65%
graphics	50%
value for money	60%



Hexpert **Commodore 64** £7.95

Anirog Software, 8 High Street, Horley, Surrey

What I always wanted, a game involving a small, charming furry alien called Bert!

This unfortunate country cousin has been kidnapped by a wicked witch and dumped on a pyramid of hexagonal pillars.

His task is to skip from pillar to pillar painting them as he goes.

A pair of bouncing balls and a rather annoying snake move about trying to slice Bert up . . . all very nasty.

There are a pair of rotating

Get your iger on the

... for a high-speed action game. Our reviewers pick the winners and the losers

disks which can be used to excape identical shades of grey. the opposition.

The bouncing balls appear to have little aggressive intelligence, and are renewed as they leave the bottom of the screen. The snake, on the other hand, wastes no time in tracking Bert down.

The game uses nice graphics

with the ubiquitous sprites.

I had only one moan. The colours used were not ideal if you have a black and white set: pale blue and yellow are almost

For some reason, the title page takes a ridiculous time to finish its display and became rather tedious. Overall, a rather nice game, and worth a look. A.W.

instructions	75%
playability	75%
graphics	95%
value for money	85%



Hunchback 32K BBC £7.95

Superior Software, 69 Leeds Road, Bramhope, Leeds

This program fully lives up to the high standard of graphics set by previous offerings from Superior Software.

The aim of the game is to guide the Hunchback, who doesn't look all that hunchy, to rescue the the second screen more difficult lovely Esmeralda.

Naturally there are numerous obstacles and diversions to overcome, including gaps along the wall, the pendulum, flying rocks, arrows and mean-looking, spearcarrying guards.

The game has plenty of variety, with 13 screens to complete, each successive one being of increasing difficulty, and three skill levels.

The action can be controlled from either the keyboard or with a

joystick, the choice of keys being sensible and comfortable to use.

The program loads in two parts, part one being the Superior Software logo followed by the main program.

The instructions are scant, just half a screen displayed by the program. I think these could be extended to explain just how the game plays in a little more detail.

The game is fun to play. I found grappling with the pendulum on than some of the later obstacles.

On-screen scoring and a high score are other features, though sadly there is no pause facility.

D.H.

instructions	60%
playability	80%
graphics	95%
value for money	85%



Crawler Spectrum

CRL, 140 Whitechapel Road, London El 1ED

The game is a souped up machinecode version of the old favourite of magazine listings: Snake. In this version, you play a crawly thing whose sole purpose in life is to eat bugs.

You crawl around the screen preying on the innocent insects, at the same time being careful not to crash into yourself or the edge of the screen.

Toadstools are dotted around the screen and trying to eat these is not recommended.

Each time your carnivorous crawler intercepts an insect his body grows longer - making it value progressively more difficult for the player to safely manoeuvre around the screen.

The graphics are fair and as smooth as a 'square-to-square' game can be. The bothersome bug is quite well programmed too he seems to jump out of your jaws at just the wrong moment.

The game has nine skill levels. Level one is acceptable but level nine is blindingly fast. In fact, after level five the game becomes unplayable.

The speed of level five can be achieved by careful programming in BASIC and hence the machinecode in this game is largely

I cannot recommend that you redundant. spend lots of hard-earned money on this game. Why not copy it out of a magazine instead? T.B.

Supposed Interventa	60%
instructions	65%
playability	50%
graphics and and	35%
value for money	un bligge



Halls of the Things **48K Spectrum** £7.50

Crystal Computing, 2 Ashton Way, East Herrington, Sunderland SR3 3RX

The inlay card states ". . . the finest quality arcade style action yet seen on the ZX Spectrum",

but the screen tells a different story.

Whoever wrote the blurb on the inlay card obviously hasn't seen many of the arcade style games that are on the market for the Spectrum these days.

Although the figure on the screen does move smoothly under your control, it moves a little too fast at times for comfort - a simple delay loop in the program would work wonders.

Set inside an eight storey tower

block, there are many rooms and passages to search for the screen rings that you need to complete your task.

I never did find any rings, but there are plenty of bottles and what look like those triangles of red balls used in a snooker game.

You have a bow and arrows, and some magic at your disposal. I'm not sure what a vorpal sword is, or that it should even be allowed, but nevertheless, you have one.

This game is also described as "... a new dimension in computing games . . . the animated adventure". That's as maybe, but there is nothing in this game that makes for compulsive playing.

instructions 90% playability 50% graphics value for money 50%



Why Microdeal followed the Dragon trail

For Dragon owners at least, Microdeal is now a household name. Its range of over 40 programs for the Dragon has dominated the software charts, and one program in particular appropriately named The King has reigned almost unchallenged at Number 1 for some months.

Now Microdeal has finally decided to make the move into BBC software, and will follow that up with programs for the VIC-20, Commodore 64 and Atari. But it is one of the very few software companies to have resisted the temptation to write software for the Spectrum.

What has Microdeal got against the Spectrum? The answer John Synes, Microdeal's MD, gives to that question is "Mad dogs and Englishmen go into the Spectrum market!

"There must be at least 50 sizeable companies now doing Spectrum software, but hardly any of them are doing anything for the Dragon. That leaves the field pretty clear for us - so why should we join the crowd supplying the Spectrum too?"

John Synes got into Dragon software through a family connection - the connection between the Tandy Color computer and the Dragon. But his first commercial contact with the computer world was as distributor of CLOAD, an American cassette-based magazine specialising in the Tandy Model 1 micro.

From selling CLOAD he diversified into imported Tandy Colour computer software, for which he needed a programmer to carry out modifications for the UK market. When the Dragon came along, the similarity between it and the Tandy Colour meant that the programmer could quickly convert Tandy software for the new machine.

John started to sell Dragon software in August 1982, and at first the response wasn't exactly overwhelming. He recalls: "I went to the Personal Computer World show in September with five titles for the Dragon - and sold eight of each."

Things were a little easier at the Northern Computer Fair, when more Dragons had been sold, and in December last year John decided to invest in full colour advertising.

Now Microdeal software is on sale in 350 dealers, including Boots, Menzies and Dixons. As well as the software division, What makes a company decide to specialise in one machine?
John Synes told Candice
Goodwin why Microdeal didn't go with the crowd

there's an advertising division, a distribution division which handles Imagine and Virgin as well as Microdeal itself, and a tape duplicating division, equipped with £40,000 worth of copying equipment.

All this has taken off since June, when John left his job as a manager at Tesco to go into the software business full time.

John has a team of 21 full-time staff, including four programmers, who are currently working on converting programs for other machines.

Though John is aware that software standards are rising all the time, he isn't worried about keeping up. "It's not getting | 6809 processor the Dragon uses is

more difficult for us - in fact, it's getting easier because, having made a name for ourselves, we get the cream of the programs submitted to us."

But as well as submitted material, about 60% of Microdeal's current range started life in the USA, in the form of Tandy Colour programs. Again, John feels this gives Microdeal an edge over the competition because "the American software's of a very high standard.

"After all, the Tandy Colour's been around there for three years people have had plenty of time to get to know the machine. Whereas in the UK, because the

complicated, people look at it and get frightened off."

One of the penalties of Microdeal's reputation for good software is that its programs are widely copied. "Piracy is an enormous problem for us", said John. "For every program we sell, I reckon there are five or six copies."

To combat the problem, Microdeal is developing a dongle a hardware device that is sold with the program, and without which the program cannot be run. "It would be worth it for the more expensive games", John reckons. "We could absorb the extra cost of £1 or so, because I know we'd sell more programs."

Piracy problems aside, Microdeal's future looks bright as it prepares to launch another batch of eight Dragon programs to follow up its five recent releases.

"I think the market will hold up for the bigger companies". John said, "But you have to be prepared to spend money to establish your name in people's minds." With a £10,000 advertising budget for its Frogger program alone, Microdeal is making sure that it isn't going to be forgotten.



Some of the Microdeal team: from left to right, top row, Andrew Best, distribution; John Hancock, general assistant; Steven Hipgrave, distribution; bottom row, Paul Johnstone, distribution; Tracey Mayo, receptionist; Lynn Crane, mail-order manageress; Jenny Pope, John Synes' PA; Jayne Downing, accounts

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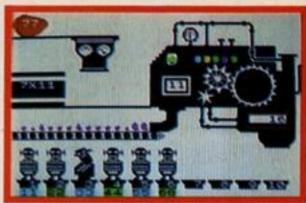
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ONE HUSBAND'S VIEW

My wife will never be the same

Heaven help any frog that crosses the road in front of me, and if I get my hands on Pac-man I'll do something with his

fruit no programmer ever thought of.

It's my fault, which makes it worse. I knew it was addictive even before I bought the wretched thing. I kept careful control on my own habit but I forgot to warn her. There didn't seem to be any need. She'd never been interested in mechanical things. Perhaps it was the careful side of her nature that led her astray, seeing my expensive toy standing idle for so many hours in the day.

Whatever it was, there's no going back now. She may recover, she may not, but either way she'll never be the same woman again, the change is too fundamental.

How do you describe an obsession? I suppose it was best summed up by our youngest in the tragic phrase: "That's the fourth time we've had fish fingers this week, Mum". She didn't believe us, of course. They never do. Lost in a cloud of inputs, enveloped in GOTOs, isolated from reality in a never ending loop, the outside world ceases to be relevant.

Culinary monotony aside, the children are protected from the worst of it. The machine is installed in our bedroom and they never see her the way I do. She sits into the night alternately hissing at the loss of a gun emplacement or gloating over the annihilation of another alien fleet.

Her knuckles turn white and she has developed a variation of Rubic's Thumb we call Pac-finger. As she crouches over the keyboard I plead with her to give it up until too tired to argue any more (or paralytic with

laughter) I fall asleep, exhausted.

The cruellist part is that she is a superb games player. I'm not macho, I don't need to compete. But her taunts at my feeble performance are so destructive. It is creating role confusion in me and it is going to lead to severe behaviour problems in our two sons. No one else knows, but they have to live with the fact that their mum can beat them at everything from Meteors to 3-Dimensional Noughts and Crosses.

I bought it as a word processor to do my writing but I can't get on it and my typist is now too busy flying our bedroom based 747. For the first time ever I'm looking

forward to Wimbledon fortnight.

It's not all bad though, the home computer must be one of the most powerful anti-depression therapies known to man, and the family that plays together has at least got something to talk about over the breakfast table.

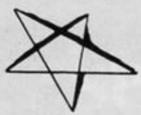
Michael Goldsmith Braunton, Devon

• This space is for you to sound off about the micro scene, to present bouquets, to hurl brickbats, or just to share your opinions or experiences. Send your contribution to Paul Liptrot, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE. Please include your occupation and your interest in computing.

presents great games from Saturn **Developments**

The chart-hitting

Mad Martha



Poor little Henry is the hen-pecked hero of this domestic tale. One night Henry can take no more. He steals his wages from his wife's purse, and sneaks out of the house being careful not to wake the baby or trip over the cat, and heads for the bright lights to have some fun. Trouble is he runs out of money. His only way to raise some cash is to gamble his few remaining pounds on the spinning wheel of the roulette table.

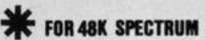
Just as Henry is getting in to his evening at the tables his wife - Mad Martha has noticed his absence. Realising Henry has absconded with the housekeeping she sets out after him with an axe. Guess what part you play in this happy tale? That's right, you're Henry. Watch out for that axe:



Time for the annual holiday and Martha decides to visit her half-cousin Manuel, who is a waiter in a plush hotel in Barcelona.

One afternoon, Martha sets out on a bus tour with her son, young Arbuthnot, leaving orders for Manuel to keep an eye on Henry. Unbeknown to Martha, crafty Henry has a Spanish pen-pal, and has planned a secret rendezvous. Henry leaves the hotel, brimming with enthusiasm and Manuel (who is totally wacky!) is hot on his trail. The adventure takes us through the thrills and spills of a madcap chase, taking in amongst other delights, a bull fight in which poor Henry is forced to play the leading role. Guaranteed laughs and fun for all the





A game to invest in . . . funny, genuinely original, and the graphics are great . . . hit the key to begin, the Spectrum plays a real Hollywood-style movie theme tune, and the hunt is on! Personal Computer News

Marvellous adventure, really dotty ... a refreshing change from some of the doomladen programs encountered nowadays... a game where you won't get to the next stage without solving the present conundrum.

Popular Computing Weekly

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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Cross Country Car Rally TI-99/4A (Extended BASIC) £13

By Norton Software, from Stainless Software, 10 Asltone Road, Stockport

wrong reasons. It has a number of poorly-trapped errors which result in bizarre situations which would have made Einstein sit up and take notice.

The aim, well documented, is to drive safely across the USA from California to New Jersey.

Sprites are used to good effect to give an almost vertiginous sense of relative movement.

You must avoid crashing into other motorists, blowing up your engine, missing detours, and the police - well, we all know what

American roads are like - and you start with a lump sum of \$50,000 which is eaten away by the cost of motoring, States-style.

Unless, of course, you decelerate too hard, in which case you end up travelling backwards, but not just that - you are actually travelling at a negative speed.

I found myself absorbed in the This game is absorbing for all the task not of playing the game, but of trying to avoid playing it - the bugs make an otherwise boring exercise unusually enjoyable. No doubt Einstein would have invoked a Special Special Theory to explain it. P.B.

instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	95%
value for money	40%



Hang Glider Pilot TI-99/4A £13

Stainless Software, 10 Alstone Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 5AH

The object of this game is to jump from a ridge, and before landing,

fly for as long and as far as possible without crashing.

The view you have of the hang glider is from above, but you also have an excellent artificial horizon as well as meters to tell your altitude, your speed ROC (rate of climb/descent), and velocity.

There are only six keys used to control the hang glider - the four arrow keys, as well as A and F.

Transport of delight

After travelling by land and air in this selection of games, our reviewers arrived at a decision...

The latter two are used for very steep banks/turns.

flight simulator will know that the arrow facing away from you (in the nose of the aeroplane down. and the arrow facing towards you (in this case, key X) pitches the nose up.

No so in this case. Key E is used to pitch the nose up, and key X is used to pitch it down. Very confusing!

Landing is rather a complicated business but, as the instructions Anyone who has played on a say, "technique comes with practice".

Even though this program is this case, key E) is used to pitch very pricey at £13, I enjoyed playing it tremendously, J.J.

88%
91%
100%
90%

Moon Buggy Commodore 64 plus joystick £7.95

Anirog Software, 8 High Street. Horley, Surrey

Well, yet again another arcade machine clone, albeit a good one.

to the left to give the impression to offer keyboard control as well. of movement.

depth, the speed of scrolling of occupied for the odd hour. A.W. the background decreases according to the distance of the background from you.

Your progress is impeded by sundry objects. You have to clear craters by jumping over them, boulders can be jumped or shot.

The odd land mine must be jumped and tanks must be shot

before they shoot you.

The arch enemy is an alien helicopter which attempts to bomb you. These are to be shot. Your score is a function of your survival time and the number of opponents destroyed.

Graphically the game is very good with nice use of sprites and good animation.

Unfortunately, the program-You control a small, six- mer seems to believe that all 64 wheeled moon buggy moving left owners should also possess a joyto right. The background scrolls stick. It wouldn't be much bother

But overall, a well-written In order to give the effect of game which should keep you

instructions	75%
playability	85%
graphics	90%
value for money	85%



Maurice Minor Dragon 32 €6.95

J. Morrison Micros, 2 Glensdale Street, Leeds LS9 9JJ

A racing car game for the Dragon. Your vehicle is disguised as an old Morris Minor. You have carelessly wandered into the middle of a Grand Prix race and now have to battle it out to the finish.

stick, and the fire button acts as Dragon software available now, it

the accelerator. Standard Formula One cars are overtaking you, and if you use the throttle you can catch up and instructions overtake them. Regularly-placed playability oil slicks ensure that you have graphics very little chance of making the value for money

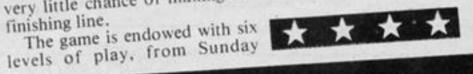
Driver upwards. But I found little difference between any of the levels - all were too difficult for

Graphics are reasonable, the me. sound of the engine is realistic enough and the game can be very fast and smooth.

But it does not grab the imagination and if you are looking for the Dragon equivalent of the famous Atari arcade game Pole Position, forget it.

On the other hand, considering achieved with the right-and joy- the quality and the price of a lot of D.W.J.

> 90% 65% 75% 72%



Danger Truck/ **Bumper** Thumper 16K ZX81 £4.50

Work Force, 140 Wilsden Avenue, Luton, Beds

There are two separate games on this tape, which represents good value at the price.

In Danger Track, on side one, you have to drive a car through a moving maze, trying to capture a number of flags while avoiding oil spots and trying to escape from five attacker cars

You can use smoke bombs to confuse the attackers, but as the game runs very quickly this is not much help!

The number of flags and oil spots can be varied. The graphics are bold and the movement fast, if jerky. Loading was faultless and the game was difficult enough to keep your attention.

On the other side of the tape is Bumper Thumper, which is an interesting variation on Pacman.

You inhabit a maze made of grey blocks which can be moved around. The object of the game is to push three special blocks completely out of the maze while avoiding the 'ghost' who is chasing you.

This is not as easy as it sounds; it is possible to push the blocks into such a position that they are iammed and won't move!

In both these games you have three lives and there is a Hall of Fame at the end.

If you enjoy games that involve dodging around mazes, this is a C.C-R. good buy.

instructions	75%
playability	70%
graphics	75%
value for money	80%



ROGRAMMABLE JOYSTICK NTERFACE 32.95 +£100pp ectrum or ZX81

PROGRAMMABLE INTERFACE

The AGF Programmable Joystick Interface is a unique design offering the use of any Ataricompatible joystick with absolutely all software, whether it is cassette or ROM cartridge, with the Sinclair Spectrum or ZX81.

The hardware programmable interface requires no additional software and accurately replicates the keys of the computer in a manner which is responsive to absolutely ALL key reading methods, both BASIC and Machine Code.

The interface does not interfere with key operation and can therefore be used simultaneously with the keyboard.

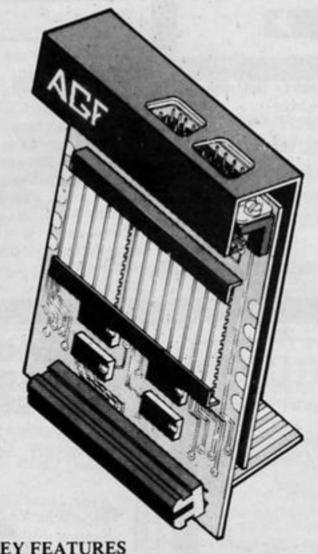
There is no need to remove the interface once fitted as the rear extension connector will accommodate further expansion, i.e printers or RAM packs etc. This important feature avoids excessive wear to the expansion port.

The key replication principle pioneered by AGF means that your own programs can use eight directional joystick movement by utilising simple key reading BASIC.

Two joystick sockets are provided which share the same keys, for use with the majority of two player games. Several interfaces may be used on the same computer for multiple joystick applications.

The interface is programmed by a two digit code, which is looked up on a programming chart supplied, for each direction and firing button. The two numbers are then selected on a pair of leads which are clipped onto appropriately numbered strips on the inter-

Once configured this can be marked on a Quick Reference Programming Card for storing with the game. As the programming is not power dependent the interface retains the last configuration made and can be immediately used when next switched on.



KEY FEATURES

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Top Ten programs for the Spectrum

	Ultimate (3)
Lunar Jetman	Durell (-)
Jungle Trouble	Quicksilva (b)
Rugaboo	Sinclair (-)
Scrabble	Imagine (-)
7ip-Zap	Imagine (8)
7700M	Sinclair (-)
The Hobbit	Longmans (-)
Countabout	Rug Byte (10)
Manic Miner	Quicksilva (1)
Ant Attack	
	Lunar Jetman Jungle Trouble Bugaboo Scrabble Zip-Zap Zzoom The Hobbit Countabout Manic Miner

Compiled by W. H. Smith. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the Commodore 64

Т	ob Leu brogram	Llamasoft (-)
1	Attack of the Mutant Camels	Quicksilva (5)
2	Purple Turtles	Quicksilva (7)
2 3	Quintic Warrior	Supersoft (-)
4	Tank Attack	Quicksilva (8)
5	Ring of Power	PSS (9)
0.000	Cosmic Split	Quicksilva (-)
6	Aquaplane	Supersoft (-)
7	Motormania	Interceptor (2)
8	Motorman	Interceptor (4)
9	Frogger	Illicioop
10	Spriteman	last WAS

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the VIC-20

1	Wizard and the Princess	Melbourne House (-)
2	Wacky Waiters	Imagine (3)
2	Panic	Bug Byte (4)
4	Catcha Snatcha	Imagine (5)
5	Matrix	Llamasoft (7)
6	Arcadia	Imagine (1)
7	Amok	Audiogenic (-)
8	Bewitched	Imagine (-)
9	Skyhawk	Quicksilva (2)
10	Frantic	Imagine (8)

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the Dragon 32

1	Frogger Mined Out	Microdeal (1) Quicksilva (3) Microdeal (-)
2	Cuthbert in the Jungle	Microdeal (10)
4	The Kind	Wintersoft (-)
5	Ring of Darkness	Peaksoft (6)
6	Champions	Shards (-)
7	Pettigrew's Diary	Cablesoft (4)
8	Drone Databank	Hewson (-)
9	Dragonfly II	Shards (7)
10	Empire	last 1

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

BEST SELLERS

Top 30

1	Valhalla'	Legend	Spectrum (26)
. 2	Jetpac	Ultimate	Spectrum (1)
3	Manic Miner	Bug Byte	Spectrum (2)
4	The Hobbit	Melbourne House	Spectrum (20)
5	Kong	Ocean	Spectrum (6)
6	Zzoom	Imagine	Spectrum (4)
7	Lunar Jetman	Ultimate	Spectrum (27)
8	Trans-Am	Ultimate	Spectrum (3)
9	Cookie	Ultimate	Spectrum (7)
10	Killer Gorilla	Program Power	BBC (8)
11	747 Flight		
	Simulator	Doctorsoft	BBC (-)
12	Arcadia	Imagine	VIC-20 (-)
13	Horace and the		
	Spiders	Psion	Spectrum (5)
14	Hall of the Things	Crystal	Spectrum (10)
15	Cuthbert in the		
- Con	Jungle	Microdeal	Dragon (13)
16	Pool	CDS	Spectrum (23)
17	Chuckie Egg	A&F	Spectrum (17)
18	The King	Microdeal	Dragon (24)
19	Bewitched	Imagine	VIC-20 (29)
20	Pssst	Ultimate	Spectrum (15)
21	Frogger	Microdeal	Dragon (21)
22	Penetrator	Melbourne House	Spectrum (22)
23	3D Combat Zone	Artic	Spectrum (16)
24	Harrier Attack	Durell	Spectrum (-)
25	Falcon Patrol	Virgin	CBM 64 (-)
26	Dungeon Master	Crystal	Spectrum (28)
27	Cuthbert Goes		
The same	Walkabout	Microdeal	Dragon (12)
28	Johnny Reb	Lothlorien	Spectrum (18)
29	Horace Goes		
Topon .	Skiing		Spectrum (19)
30	Aquaplane	Quicksilva	Spectrum (-)
	The second section is		

Compiled by PCS Distribution (0254 691211) and sanctioned by the Computer Trade Association. Chart is for retail sales in individual outlets in the UK and Northern Ireland for the fortnight ended November 20

Top Ten programs for the ZX81

	Job Len b	Quicksilva (1)
1	Scramble	Sinclair (4) Sinclair (-)
2	1K Chess	Sinciali (5)
2	Fantasy Games	Sinclair (5)
Λ	C-hotade	Sinclair (-)
4 5	Espionage Island	Sinclair (6)
6	Chess	Quicksilva (7)
7	Acteroids	Sinclair (-)
	Space Raiders	Quicksilva (2)
8	n fander	Addictive (8)
9	Fasthall Mariager	
10	1000	Lackets are last W

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

MR CHIP SOFTWARE

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VIC-20 GAMES AND UTILITIES

JACKPOT

This is it, the ultimate Fruit Machine for the VIC with nudge, hold and respin 100% machine code. "Overall Jackpot is a beautifully written simulation giving superb graphics, animation and use of colour. In fact, this program makes Commodore's Fruit Machine cartridge look unbelievably cheap and nasty." Home Computing Weekly No. 20 19/7/83......£5.50

KWAZY KWAKS

Accuracy and speed are required for this Shooting Gallery, superb use of colour and graphics in this new and challenging game from the author of Jackpot. 100% machine code, joystick or keyboard control.....£5.50

PACMANIA

Choose your own game from the following options — difficulty 1-3 speed 1-3, size of maze 1-3, visible or invisible maze, still or moving power pills, define your own key controls, any combination, if this is your type of game, then this is the one for you, for the 3K expand VIC.....£5.50

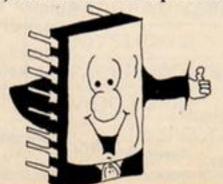
BUGSY (Joystick Only)

This is a Minefield with a difference as you step on the stones whilst collecting purple boxes which give your both time and points, they disappear from beneath your feet. DO NOT DESPAIR! "BUGSY" will randomly replace the stones but avoid bumping into him or its sudden death! An original compulsive and challenging game....£5.50

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COMMODORE 64 GAMES AND UTILITIES

JACKPOT 64

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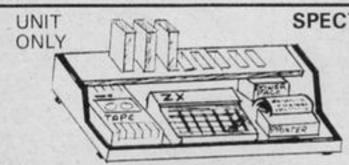
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Don't take my word for it, read what people write about me and my method:-

I won on Zetters last weekend. It was not a big sum, but all the same it was a very nice surprise for me. J.C., Lancs.

I appreciate the straightforward method you adopt, which is such a contrast to the rubbish of misrepresentation which is so common in the Betting World, by unscupulous C.H., Devon and self-opinionated charlatans.

Winnings cheque received today, sincere thanks.

D.N., Devon

I congratulate you on your achievement. ,

R.R., Wales

I should like to thank you for a most exciting season and look forward to hearing from J.C., Hants.

I would like to acknowledge cheque and say how much I appreciate your integrity. J.M., Scotland

Many thanks for your system, it is all you say and more.

J.C., Lancs.

K.R., Isle of Man.

Your wonderful system won me £3,527. I intend to visit London soon and will be able to come and see you personally. (Overseas Client). P.M., Kampala.

Many thanks for trying so hard to please us all, your brother should be thanked also. One of our daughters, WHOSE HUSBAND YOU HELPED ENORMOUSLY, has just phoned, the four of them have just spent a lovely holiday in Spain.

Haverfordwest, Pembs.

I sent in my FIRST entry last week and won 2nd and 3rd dividends, as you will see from the enclosed certificate. One more and I would have collected over £400 for FIRST dividend. Once I've won a fair amount I shall be staking from winnings and at 2p per line, A FIRST DIVIDEND last week at this would have been over £3,000. C.A., Yorks.

I am very	interested	indeed ar	d enclose	£20 her	ewith. I	agree to	pay you the
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Name		
Address		
		HCW
The Managing Director,	Please tick if cassette is for:	
ootball Enterprises,	Sinclair Spectrum (48K)	
Anvon',	Any other Computer	
New Road,	No Computer at all	
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